

Ponting tells of offer to 'let matter drop' if he resigned

By Richard Norton-Taylor

Mr Clive Ponting, the Ministry of Defence official charged under the Official Secrets Act for sending documents about the Belgrano affair to the Labour MP, Mr Tam Dalyell, said yesterday that he was told that senior ministry officials had decided "it would be the end of the matter" if he was prepared to resign from the Civil Service.

Giving evidence at the Old Bailey, he said he was told by Detective Chief Inspector Thomas Hughes of the Ministry of Defence police early in August that the officials — including Sir Ewen Broadbent, second permanent secretary — expressed the view that the department did not come out very well from the documents.

Mr Hughes said at that stage the Prime Minister had not been informed, and that they wished to resolve the matter before she found out. Mr Ponting told the jury.

Mr Ponting said Mr Hughes told him that the officials had concluded that the issue was not a matter for the Official Secrets Act, and that they were not clear that an offence had occurred since the documents had only been sent to the Palace of Westminster.

Cross-examined later by Mr Roy Amlot, prosecution counsel, Mr Ponting said that he did not immediately admit sending the documents because he wanted confirmation that the matter was being treated as a breach of trust.

He agreed that, according to intelligence assessments, the Belgrano posed a threat to the task force in the Falklands conflict.

But he said that ministers refused to disclose more information about the sinking of the Argentine cruiser out of political embarrassment rather than intelligence considerations.

He told Mr Amlot that he did not believe that the Defence Secretary, Mr Michael

Heseltine, based his arguments for withholding information notably about the Belgrano's reversal of course 11 hours before it was attacked — on sound and sensible grounds.

The arguments, Mr Ponting said, were based on political considerations, in that the Government was not willing to correct all its previous and inaccurate statements.

He said he did not regret his action and that it was "quite wrong" to suggest that he sent the documents to Mr Dalyell out of pique because his advice was not accepted.

Asked if he considered that his action was understandable, he replied that that was the only way he could get information to Parliament.

One of the documents he sent to Mr Dalyell showed how and why the Ministry intended not to give the Commons Foreign Affairs Committee a full list of changes in rules of engagement during the Falklands conflict.

The armed forces minister, Mr John Stanley, had sent a memo to the committee that was "highly selective and highly slanted", Mr Ponting said. He suggested that the committee need not go any further with its inquiries.

Mr Ponting accepted that the only person who could have given authority for the documents to be sent to an MP was Mr Heseltine, and that under Civil Service regulations he would not have that authority.

Asked why he sent the documents, he replied: "Because it is in the wider interests of Parliament to be told how it was being misled and how the Government was now proposing to mislead it."

Asked why he sent them to Mr Dalyell, he said: "He is a duly elected MP and a man of considerable integrity, whatever you or I think of his views. Dalyell had been systematically misled."

The trial continues.

Union dues unpaid in sackings row

By James Lewis

About 1,500 print workers on Merseyside have stopped paying their union contributions in protest against the sackings of four women who were employed by the union — the Society of Graphical and Allied Trades — at its area headquarters in Liverpool.

The women believe that they were dismissed because they made allegations about financial irregularities concerning expenses at the office. The allegations have been investigated by the union, which says they are groundless.

The women — Dawn Howard, Susanna Spencer, Denise Farr and Marian Elliott — originally sent their allegations in a letter to the union president, Brenda Dean, but say that she passed it on to the Liverpool branch for investigation.

"The branch immediately took hostile action by demoting two of us," said Ms Howard. When they went on strike in protest against the demotion, she said, they and the

two others who had supported them were dismissed.

Miss Dean said yesterday that the allegations of financial irregularities had been taken seriously. "I asked the union's financial secretary and the professional accountant of the Liverpool branch to investigate. They did so and reported back to me that the allegations were without foundation."

The four women had not been dismissed because they made those allegations, said Miss Dean. They had appealed against their dismissals and, though Sogat branches were autonomous bodies, the union had felt that in the special circumstances of this case the appeals should be heard by the national council. After deliberating for four and half hours the council rejected the appeals. I am satisfied that natural justice has been done," she said.

Sogat members on Merseyside are being invited to a meeting on Saturday at which the four women will give their account of the dispute and ask for more support.

Speaker's vow of silence

By Ian Aitken, Political Editor

MR Bernard Weatherill, the House of Commons Speaker, yesterday gave a categorical assurance to MPs that he had no intention of writing his memoirs or anything else about his term in office.

His assurance follows extracts from a book by his predecessor, Lord Tonyypandy, in last weekend's Sunday Times. The extracts contained detailed accounts of highly confidential conversations with various MPs and ministers of the period.

Mr Eric Heffer, the Labour MP for Walton, raised the fact that he had been mentioned in Lord Tonyypandy's account of the coming and goings related to the last Labour government's bill to nationalise the shipbuilding industry. Mr Heffer had been recalled as one of the many MPs who had called on the Speaker to remonstrate with him about his ruling that the bill was out of order.

Addressing Lord Tonyypandy's successor yesterday, Mr Heffer asked for an assurance that any perceived conversations with MPs would not find their way into the newspapers. That, he said, was a matter of grave concern for parliamentarians.

Mr Weatherill replied: "If it is any comfort to you, I have no intention of writing anything."

Chief Whips from both parties have made representations to Mr Weatherill about his predecessor's conduct.

Farmer says he shot neighbour after being attacked with a knife

Graham Backhouse claimed that he shot his neighbour in self-defence when he was attacked with a knife in his Cotswold farmhouse, the jury in the Bristol car bomb trial heard yesterday.

Backhouse claimed that the neighbour, Colin Bedale-Taylor, aged 63, had admitted planting the home-made car bomb which injured Mrs Margaret Backhouse three weeks earlier.

In a statement, police officer Mr Colin Bedale-Taylor said that he had admitted planting the home-made car bomb which injured Mrs Margaret Backhouse three weeks earlier.

Backhouse claimed that the neighbour, Colin Bedale-Taylor, aged 63, had admitted planting the home-made car bomb which injured Mrs Margaret Backhouse three weeks earlier.

The Crown claims that he wanted to collect £100,000 in insurance money to pay pressing debts and further that on April 30 he lured Mr Bedale-Taylor to his home as a scapegoat to throw suspicion on himself for the bomb attack, and killed him.

In his statement, read out by Mr Lionel Read, QC, defending, Backhouse said Mr Bedale-Taylor called around 7.30 and inquired after his wife. He invited him in and they sat having coffee.

Scottish Board chief hints at reduced redundancy terms for doomed colliery

Nacods threaten strike ballot

By Patrick Wintour, Labour Staff

Mr Peter McNestry, the national secretary of the pit deputies' union, Nacods, said yesterday that his union would call a ballot on strike action unless the Government withdrew its demand that the miners' union agree to co-operate with the closure of uneconomic pits.

He said any statement extracted from the National Union of Mineworkers agreeing to co-operate in such closures would be incompatible with Nacods' agreement, drawn up with the National Coal Board at Acais in October. The Nacods agreement referred to an independent appeals body to review pit closures and investment issues.

Nacods officials met the coal board's members personally, Mr Merrick Spanton, on Monday, to impress upon the board that it would not accept any agreement committing the NUM to pit closures.

Mr McNestry said yesterday: "We have to stand up and be counted to protect our agreement. Mrs Thatcher tramples on weakness." He said the two-thirds strike majority required under the union's rules would have to be fought for, but was obtainable. He expected the union's executive to be called together by the end of the week to decide on a ballot.

Under the agreement, the NCB has committed itself to an independent appeals body to consider appeals from pits over lack of investment as well as over closures. Under this early warning procedure there might be appeals from as many as 100 pits a year over capital investment.

Mr McNestry said. He added that the NUM was going to support the appeals body and will therefore find its right to manage restricted.

Repeated rejections by the NCB of the appeals body decisions would, in Nacods view, represent a breach of the agreement.

The deputies believe their deal with the NCB did not commit the union to accept the closure of pits on economic grounds. The agreement merely stated that the board's plans "should be updated in the form of two-year plans reflecting changes in the market and production opportunities."

Mr McNestry said: "We know the board and the Government can change the economic viability of a pit by juggling the figures, so the independent appeals body will have to assess not just a pit's reserves but also its profit and loss figures. In the past we have taken the board's figures as fact on profit and loss and just brought along our mining engineers to put our case to the old colliery review procedure, but in future we'll also be bringing accountants."

A 57 per cent majority of Nacods members have voted to follow their executive's recommendation and accept a 5.2 per cent pay offer. There was a strong vote against the offer in the Midlands region, traditionally the union's most moderate area.

By Peter Hetherington

Miners at the Frances colliery in Fife whose jobs were lost when the National Coal Board closed the pit because of fire damage may face compulsory redundancy without the industry's usual generous severance terms. This possibility was raised by the National Coal Board last night as teams fought to control a fire underground at another Fife mine, Seafield, which has put a further 2,300 miners' jobs in the balance.

The question mark over redundancy terms was raised by the board's Scottish director, Mr Albert Wheeler.

NUM area 'spent £3m on picketing'

The Yorkshire National Union of Mineworkers spent more than £3 million on picketing in the six months to January, a High Court judge was told yesterday.

Mr Richard Slowe counsel for 19 working Yorkshire miners, told Mr Justice Scott that £2,166,000 had been spent on payments to pickets and £961,000 on other picketing expenses, including fines for picket-line offences.

He was opposing an application by the area and national miners' unions for the adjournment of the working miners' action for injunctions outlawing mass picketing. It is due to be heard on Tuesday.

The judge refused the adjournment but ruled that the working miners could not include in evidence 22 press cuttings listing violence against working miners. The miners' unions had sought the adjournment on the basis that their lawyers needed time to prepare answers to allegations in the cuttings.

Union lawyers told the judge last week that they might need extra time to deal with fresh evidence linking working miners' committees to the Government and the National Coal Board. Mr Michael Seifert, senior partner in the London law firm which is acting for the NUM and its president, Mr Arthur Scargill repeated the allegations in a sworn statement yesterday.

He claimed that the national working miners' committee had raised £500,000, most of which was to be spent on legal actions against the unions, and accused one of the working miners of bringing the injunction of having taken part in picketing.

Mr Gary Kornacki, of Doe Quarry Lane, Dinnington, near Doncaster, had "engaged in exactly the sort of picketing to which he purports to object."

● A High Court judge yesterday reserved judgment on an attempt by 20 working South Wales miners to win an injunction outlawing mass picketing. Mr Justice Scott is likely to give his ruling before he begins a similar move by Yorkshire working miners on Tuesday.

● Ken Foulstone, aged 45, a working miner at Manton, near Worsop, appeared before Doncaster magistrates yesterday on three charges of burglary. The case was adjourned until February 19. Foulstone, of Nottinghamshire, began legal action against the NUM last year.

After the surprise weekend closure of the Frances colliery, with the loss of 500 jobs, Mr Wheeler issued a short statement to clarify the position on redundancy pay when jobs are lost through damage caused by the current strike. He said that the board had not decided on the situation with regard to redundancy payments — a clear indication that miners in certain circumstances may not benefit from the present redundancy scheme.

The Scottish area of the NCB said that the entire Seafield colliery, employing 2,300, was under threat because of the fire in its most productive coalface. Closure of this face, which now seems a

strong possibility, would result in the immediate loss of 300 jobs, the board said.

But the remainder were also at risk because without the face the under-sea colliery would no longer be an "economically viable unit."

Mr Wheeler said that the board was losing the battle against the Seafield fire, which had been raging for three weeks. Carbon monoxide was at such a high level that it was unlikely that the face would be saved, he said.

For the second day running members of the deputies' union, Nacods, refused to cross a picket line outside Seafield, although an NUM spokesman

said it had no objection to men entering the pit to fight the fire.

The executive of the Scottish NUM, meeting yesterday to discuss the crisis in Fife, decided on a "certain line of action," according to the president, Mr Mick McGahey. While declining to say what this amounted to, Mr McGahey blamed Mr Wheeler for the crisis at Frances and Seafield. He said the board was making false claims.

But Mr Wheeler was adamant that the union must bear the responsibility. Since NUM had pickedet out members of Nacods at Seafield, "We have had no assistance."



THE actors George Cole and Dennis Waterman with their Variety Club of Great Britain awards yesterday after being nominated joint TV personalities of the year for their performances as Arthur Daley and Terry McCann in the series, Minder.

The pop artist Boy George was named as recording artist of the year and Terry Wogan as show business personality of 1985. Film actor of the year was Anthony Hopkins for his performance in *The Bounty*. Helen Mirren was named as film actress of the year for *Cal*. Paul Eddington was stage actor of the year for *Forty Years On*, and Maureen Lipman received the stage actress award for *See How They Run*. Richard Baker was radio personality of the year.

'The 9.11 to Exeter is a commercial'

By Geoff Andrews, Transport Correspondent

A TRAIN totally covered by an advertisement for British Telecom could become a new weapon in the fight to save branch lines from extinction.

The bright yellow three-car diesel which enters service between Exeter, Plymouth and a number of smaller stations in the West Country today, is an extension of the "Colours" concept dreamed up a few years ago by British Transport Advertising to combat the collapse of buses as an advertising medium.

That solution — buses covered in adverts printed on vinyl panels — has proved so successful that in many parts of the country all suitable vehicles have now been converted. Profits have increased tenfold in the past four years.

The idea of applying the same kind of advertising to trains followed an approach from British Rail officials in Plymouth who wanted to reduce the deficit on some of their social service routes.

Mr John Nunnally, managing director of BTA said yesterday that he hoped that the Plymouth Colours train would be the first of many sold to major advertisers, although there could be problems ahead.

The first train, hand-painted and then decorated with the BT logo, illustrations and the slogan, "It's a pleasure to travel with us," was suitable because it is a fixed formation. Extending the idea to other trains, in which some carriages are likely to be taken out of service from time to time, could make a nonsense of the idea.

BTA has rejected advertising on single coaches, a system which has already been tried in the Netherlands.

While bus advertising has covered a wide variety of wares from X-Factors to football clubs, BR is unlikely to allow the same freedom on its trains particularly in view of the protests which are expected from diehard rail enthusiasts.

Bomb trial told of murders in Libya

By Tom Sharritt

A Libyan businessman whose car was blown up in front of his flat in Manchester last March said at Manchester Crown Court yesterday that just before he came to Britain in 1977 two of his relatives and several members of his tribe had been killed by Colonel Gaddafi's troops for opposing the regime.

Mr Ahmed Abdul el Aneizi was giving evidence on the second day of the trial of four Libyan students on explosives charges.

Mr El Aneizi, aged 23, of Delamary Road, Crumpsall, Manchester, Khalid Mansour, aged 23, of the same address, and Mohammed Salabak, aged 25, of Dickenson Road, Longlight, Manchester, are accused of causing an explosion in Manchester on March 11.

Mr El Aneizi said that he came to Britain in April 1977 because things had happened in Libya which made it better for him to leave. Questioned by Mr Rhys Davies, QC, about his attitude to the Gaddafi regime, Mr El Aneizi responded by asking whether he was to give evidence about the case or about his political beliefs.

Mr Justice Cantley told him to answer questions and said: "If you have any difficulty in answering questions because it might in some way harm you, let me know."

Mr El Aneizi said he was not a member of any organisation. Asked by Mr Davies if he had ever taken part in a political demonstration in Britain related to the Libyan regime, he said that once he was going to but did not do so.

On the morning of March 11,

when his Citroen estate car was blown up in front of his flat in Ainess Road, Whalley Range, he was awakened by a bell ringing and heard a noise as if someone was trying to smash down the front door.

He had heard on radio and TV that groups of Libyans might be coming to Britain to commit crimes and that Libyans were in danger, and he was worried. The reports had not said who were the targets and he thought he might be one. But it turned out to be the police at the door.

Mr William Howard, QC, for Mr Abouzuz, asked Mr El Aneizi: "In the two months before April 1977, were two of your relatives killed by Gaddafi's troops?"

Mr El Aneizi replied: "Yes."

"And the only crime they had committed was to oppose his regime?" — "Yes."

"During that same two months were several members of your tribe also killed by Gaddafi's troops?" — "Yes."

"Again, their only crime was opposing his regime?" — "Yes."

Mr Fadel Youssef Hshad, the last witness yesterday, responded to more than 30 questions from Mr Davies and the judge by saying: "I can't answer that question." In spite of repeated requests to say why, he declined to do so.

Asked by the judge if he was frightened, Mr Hshad said he was not. Mr Davies asked: "Where does your family live?" Mr Hshad replied: "In Libya."

Finally, the judge told Mr Hshad to think about what he was going to say after the trial resumed this morning.

Couple 'rushed wealthy widow's cremation'

The owners of an old people's home who are accused of drugging a wealthy widow to make her so confused that she changed her will in their favour made hurried arrangements to have her cremated, it was alleged yesterday.

Mr Michael Galke, QC, prosecuting, told Maidstone Crown Court that Maxwell Tilling and his wife, Sylvia, wanted Mrs Kirby aged 84, to be cremated as soon as possible so that traces of unauthorised drugs could not be found in her body.

Mrs Kirby wanted to be buried in the same churchyard as the composer Dr John Ireland, for whom she had been secretary and housekeeper.

Tillings, aged 46, and his 39-year-old wife, of Cabin Court, Lodge, Sea Road, Westgate, Kent deny nine charges including theft, attempted theft, unlawfully administering drugs and deception.

Dr Ireland left Mrs Kirby the royalties from his published works, about £7,000 a year, and her estate was worth

£100,000. She had intended to leave her estate to a trust fund but five days before her death made a new will leaving her residual estate to the Tillings.

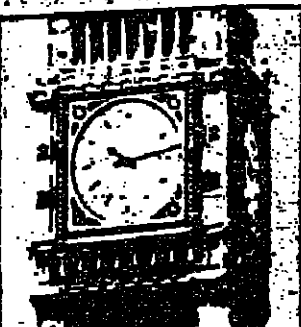
The executor of the John Ireland Trust, Mr Peter Taylor, told the jury yesterday that, within hours of Mrs Kirby's death, Mrs Tillings told him that she had arranged for cremation within a day or two.

Mrs Kirby had sounded "rambling and tired," when he telephoned a few days earlier but Mr Taylor added that she had said in letters: "It is a wonderful, restful home kept by lovely people. The Tillings are friends indeed and in need."

Her GP, Dr George Dingermann, said he had not prescribed tranquillisers or sleeping pills for her.

Mr Leonard Gruber, an air line pilot, said that when he visited Mrs Kirby shortly before her death she whispered: "For God's sake help me" but was not spoken on this.

The trial continues today.



David McKie

High Noon, low cunning

THE STORY SO FAR: Big Ken Baker (Lee J. Cobb) is a man with a mission. Looking through his ranch house window, he sees a world sick and sodden with subsidy.

Before it is too late, Baker resolves, he can at least purge his own little plot of earth of this filthy contagion. Maybe he will even go down through history as the man who brought the cleansing power of the Film's Bill to the land that he has known and loved since childhood.

Early Levy (Elizabeth Taylor) will be driven out of town. The notorious gang of badasses, the call the National Film Finance Corporation will be put out of business at last. In the pioneering tradition that made the West, the spirit of the man who is Lamont's adversary (Kinski) will be enshrined in their place.

But Baker doesn't survive to see his dreams fulfilled. He passes over to another, more glorious shore, where all hate and rancour are stilled and peace commands.

Parliament, page 5

her beautiful files (the Department of Environment), yet his cause lives on. A silver-tongued salesman, Norman Lamont (James Garner) rides into town and volunteers to take his place. So talking is Lamont's advocacy that a meeting in the town saloon agrees to read his bill not once but twice.

But up at Big E ranch they do not like Lamont's intentions. Led by local intellectual Bryan Gould (James Stewart) they resolve (James Stewart) and town lawyer, Gerry Bermingham (Warren Beatty) they resolve to thwart his plans. And in meeting in an upstairs room (played by Committee room 12) they are joined by a clique of dissidents, the Gorst Gang: silver-haired intriguer John Gorst (George Sanders), grizzled old-timer Tim Brando (George C. Scott), personable, swash-buckling Jeremy Stanley (Michael York), and wisecracking newcomer Roger Gale (Helen Mirren).

These four team up with Gould to mutilate Lamont's brainchild by insisting that wherever a lousy old movie like this one gets shown on TV the movie-maker can take a cut.

But Lamont is too proud a man to live with defeat. So he resolves that for the sake of Baker's memory alone he will get his revenge. Under town law there must be one further meeting in the big saloon before the die is cast. Lamont will keep the confrontation peaceable if he can, charming them with new arguments, warning that their schemes will shoot holes in BBC and ITV budgets. But if they'll be forced to turn down the worthy local groups as drama producers. But if it comes to the worst there may have to be a shoot-out.

Pausing only to play "High Noon" through one more time on his video, Lamont claps on his chaps and canter into town.

Now read on: There was a hushed, tense air in the big saloon as Lamont took his place at the bar. All eyes were on him. And the eyes were hostile eyes; for the dozen-odd folk who'd turned out to greet him were almost all those who had staged the ambush upstairs.

But Lamont had a secret weapon. Concealed about the building he had several hundred supporters, primed and bludgeoned not to desert him as the Gorst gang had done.

At the ringing of a bell they swarmed in to the saloon, outnumbering the forces of Gould and Gorst and compelling them to submit by 224 votes to 184. High above, Marianne Street, Lee J. Baker gazed down fondly upon the young stranger who had made his life's work complete.

● I know George is dead, but this is supposed to be an old movie.

● Apologies to Miss Mirren and Mr Gale, but this script is a bit thin on female interest, especially since they tell me Early Levy is a thing and not a woman.

World radio change urged

By Dennis Barker
THE BBC's External Services should receive funding for three years rather than one to allow them to plan further ahead, says an inquiry team whose findings were announced yesterday.

The system of making money available on a yearly basis through the Foreign Office has led to a series of annual cost crises as governments of both main political parties have tried to cut public expenditure. It has created a potential threat to the stability of a service with a worldwide audience of 100 million a week.

A change to three years would be in line with the BBC's licence fee settlement. However, the team's report

says that the BBC should see that middle and senior External Services managers receive more training in resource management and that the service should provide more financial and management information to the FO.

The team consisted of representatives of the Treasury, Cabinet Office efficiency unit, the FO and the BBC.

The services should introduce an annual budgeting system under which expenditure proposed for the coming year would be reviewed. The BBC should be allowed to carry forward into the next year any underspending of up to 10 per cent of the capital provision for the services.

The FO does not escape implied criticism. Some recom-

mendations suggest that it should have more positive criteria for what it expects of External Services.

The team suggests savings of £1.6 million a year in the areas of its case studies, which included engineering. External Services executives said yesterday that savings of £1.1 million a year were already under way.

The BBC and the FO have welcomed the 80-page report from the team, which was set up in July. The BBC was especially pleased with the suggestion that External Services should be funded for three years, like the rest of the corporation, and that the period should start at the same time. This would mean a starting point of April 1 this year.

A BBC External Services spokesman said that the BBC board of governors supported the proposals to improve efficiency and economy. "All such proposals will be studied with great care, as it is manifest throughout the report that the team's prime concern was to help the BBC forward in its efforts to give greater value for money."

Sir Geoffrey Howe, the Foreign Secretary, said in a letter published with the report: "We are all agreed that the review team have done a thorough and useful job."

Officials of the BBC, the FO and the Home Office, which regulates broadcasting, are discussing detailed implementation of the proposals.

Avoiding NHS queues 'blocked'

By Andrew Veltch
Health officials are accused today of trying to block a scheme which has helped patients to shorten the time they spend waiting for operations. Patients who face years of queuing for surgery at their local hospitals have been using a College of Health guide to NHS waiting lists to move to other districts with shorter queues.

The Department of Health said yesterday that it had no evidence that administrators were blocking admissions from other districts. Consultants, not administrators, decided which patients would be admitted for treatment.

However, authorities in London and Oxford have told doctors in several specialties that their departments will be funded on the basis of local rather than national need. Rivenhead rehabilitation centre for brain-damaged patients at Oxford is an example. The

authority has made it clear that it will not be funded to treat patients from other regions.

Meanwhile, the College of Health reports that waiting lists remain a serious problem. In March last year 682,945 patients were queuing for hospital beds in England alone.

The department's objective is that no urgent cases should wait for longer than a month, and no non-urgent cases should wait longer than a year.

The worst regions, according to the college's updated survey, are Trent (which includes north Derbyshire, Leicester, Nottinghamshire, and south Lincolnshire), and South-western (Bristol, Gloucestershire, Somerset, Devon, and Cornwall).

The College of Health Guide to Hospital Waiting Lists, £1 to members, £2.50 to non-members, from the College of Health, 18 Victoria Park Square, Bethnal Green, London



These Flying Men are in the Elisabeth Frink exhibition at the Royal Academy. Picture: Frank Martin

Wasp 'in crash bus'

By a Correspondent
A 14-year-old boy who survived a minibus crash in which four members of a school football team and a teacher died, told a resumed inquest at Walsall yesterday that a wasp flew into the bus.

Carl Furnival of Park Lane, Wednesbury, West Midlands, said that just before the minibus collided with an articulated lorry in Wood Green Road, Wednesbury, last September "a wasp flew into our minibus, hit me on the side of the head and flew down to where the teacher was driving."

In a statement read to the inquest the lorry driver, Mr

John Sconce, said the approaching minibus "swerved at the last moment over the road in front of me." He said the minibus driver was "leaning over and I could see his head turned. I thought, 'Christ, he hasn't seen me.' I put on the horn. He looked up, but it was too late."

A surviving teacher, Mr John Farrall, aged 28, said the lorry "appeared out of nowhere. The next thing I remember was waking up in the road. I wasn't aware of a wasp. I did not hear it or see it."

Mr Aiden Cotter, the Walsall coroner, recorded verdicts of accidental deaths.

No warning of cancer risk with birth drug

By Andrew Veltch, Medical Correspondent
Depo-Provera, the injectable contraceptive, was launched on the British market for long-term use on the day that a World Health Organisation warning that women who take it for five years run twice the risk of cervical cancer.

Dr Norman Macleod, medical director for the manufacturers, Upjohn, insisted that the WHO report was on the orders of the Depo-Provera caused cervical cancer, and that the risk was comparable to that of the contraceptive pill.

An information leaflet for patients listing the side-effects, taken up on the orders of the Department of Health and approved by it does not mention cervical cancer.

The WHO report, based on data collected from more than 8,000 women using the drug in Kenya, Mexico and Thailand and published in the Lancet in December, said: "The doubling of risk in women who used (Depo-Provera) for five or more years is of potential concern."

It has been given on a one-off basis to some 15,000 British women, usually to prevent pregnancy - after a German measles vaccination. Only one in a thousand British women are expected to use it long-term with one injection every three months.

Upjohn is marketing the drug here to maintain confidence in third world countries, where it has been given to millions of women, and to keep up pressure on the US Food and Drug Administration, who have refused to license it because of cancer risks.

The Government's Chief Medical Officer, Dr Donald Acheson, has written to all GPs and family planning doctors urging them to give patients full and clear information about the drug, and time to make up their minds, before prescribing it.

The leaflet for patients has been written in Hindi, Urdu, Bengali, Gujarati, Punjabi, Chinese, Turkish and Greek as well as English. It lists possible side-effects as heavy and irregular bleeding, followed by an absence of periods, back ache, weight gain, and depression. Women should not expect to regain their fertility until at least six to eight months, and possibly two years or more, after their last injection. It carries no warning of the dangers of taking the drug immediately after childbirth, even though Upjohn's medical adviser, Dr Hazel Hinchley, said yesterday: "We do not recommend Depo-Provera for the first six weeks after childbirth. You do get increased bleeding."

Listening parent is key to child literacy

By Andrew Moncur, Education Staff
CHILDREN whose parents join in the effort to teach them to read can achieve more than pupils who are helped by highly qualified teachers, members of a Commons select committee heard yesterday.

The progress of children up to the age of eight has been improved, even when their parents are themselves unable to read or when they do not speak English.

Ms Henrietta Dombey, vice-chairman of the National Association for the Teaching of English, said that research had provided dramatic evidence of the benefits.

One project in Coventry had shown that by recruiting parents to carry out reading programmes at home schools in deprived areas had achieved the same standards as those in the "salubrious suburbs."

Ms Dombey, a lecturer in education at Brighton Polytechnic, said: "It seems to us an area for raising standards with enormous potential."

She told members of the Select Committee on Education and Science that initiatives throughout the country appeared to be "dramatically successful."

But involving parents in teaching their children to read meant that primary school teachers needed more resources. They had to have larger stocks of books, so that pupils could take them home, and books of a higher standard had to be available.

"What is happening is legitimising what many concerned middle-class parents have done for centuries," she said.

Even parents who were unable to read could help their children, simply by listening to them reading. They could detect mistakes in the sense of their stories even when they were unable to point out errors in the text.

Research showed that the progress of children helped at home exceeded that of children who received help from specialist teachers at school. "Progress was much greater than expected."

Members of the select committee were told of the problems facing teachers in dealing with shortages of suitable text books. In one case a teacher had paid out £200 for books to meet the needs of her pupils.

Others were using reading primers which they regarded as seriously out of date. In some primary schools text books were being replaced only after 10 years' use.

Ban on movement at Aids scare gaol

Prison officers at Chelmsford, Essex, have banned the movement of prisoners in and out of the goal after the death of the prison chaplain from Aids. They fear the spread of the disease, but the Home Office yesterday insisted that there was no risk and no need to quarantine the prison.

Since the death of Mr Gregory Richards, aged 38, who was a regular visitor to gay clubs in London, between 20 and 30 inmates had been moved from Chelmsford to other prisons.

But as a result of concern among prison officers, the Prison Officers' Association's national executive had banned such movement from yesterday, said Mr Colin Steel, the chairman. Coaches of young offenders and their escorts had been refused admission at Wellingborough Prison, Northamptonshire, and Onley Prison, near Rugby, he said.

Officers who had refused to admit the Chelmsford inmates had been warned that this could lead to their being sent home and subjected to disciplinary action, he added.

A Home Office spokesman said the Mid-Essex health authority felt that there was no public health risk and no reason for not transferring prisoners.

The body of Mr Richards, who died last Thursday, was cremated on Monday night.

Staff at Chelmsford crematorium agreed to an emergency service after a council safety inspector had been called in to assure them that there would be no risk of infection. But staff insisted that the 10-minute service, conducted by two priests, should not be held in the usual chapel.

Juveniles not spending longer in custody

By Malcolm Dean
Previous claims that the 1982 Criminal Justice Act had led to a large increase in custody for juvenile offenders are belied by Home Office statistics released yesterday.

Earlier studies of the act indicated an increase in the proportion of juveniles between 16 and 18 receiving youth custody sentences. But the new statistics show that the number of juveniles receiving a detention centre order or youth custody sentence in the year to June 1984 was 6,000, a 5 per cent fewer than in the previous year.

Mr David Mellor, a junior Home Office minister, said yesterday that the average length of sentence had also dropped. The only increase had been in the proportion of juveniles receiving custodial sentences, and this increase was less than 1 per cent.

One reason why the length of sentence is less under the new act is because the new act has now taken into account the minimum length of a detention centre order.

More juveniles received youth custody orders than previously received borstal sentences, but the average sen-



tence was less than eight months and remission reduced this to just over five.

The government has been pressed by the all-party parliamentary group on penal affairs to reduce the proportion of juveniles receiving custodial sentences. In the last 25 years the proportion has trebled, from 4 per cent of all juveniles found guilty of an indictable offence in 1960, to 12 per cent in 1983.

Home Office Statistical Bulletin, February 3, 1985, £2.50 from Statistic Department, Home Office, Tower House, Surbiton, Surrey, KT6 7DS.

Three found murdered

Detectors in Sussex began a murder inquiry yesterday after a couple and their teenage son had been found battered to death.

The victims, wearing night clothes, were found in separate rooms at the Lighthouse Club on the seaford at Shoreham.

Police believe that they were Mr George Teed, aged 48, his wife Edie, aged 38, and son David, aged 13.

Detective Superintendent John McConnell, deputy head of Sussex CIB, said they died from severe head injuries inflicted by a blunt instrument.

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Northern Ireland Office came to ex-MP's aid, Assembly told

Unionist points to Carron as IRA commander

From Paul Johnson in Belfast

Mr Owen Carron, a leading Sinn Féin activist and former MP for Fermanagh and South Tyrone, was accused yesterday of being the IRA commander in Fermanagh.

The claim was made under privilege in the Northern Ireland Assembly by Mr Ivan Foster, a member of the Democratic Unionist Party and a native of the same area.

During an adjournment debate on security Mr Foster, a hard-line Unionist, alleged that documents incriminating Mr Carron were found by police when two women were arrested in Northern Ireland last year.

He claimed that when the RUC moved in to arrest Mr Carron the Northern Ireland Office interceded to prevent any detention. Mr Foster said this represented political interference in the course of justice and would cost lives.

Mr Carron said last night that he rejected the claim absolutely. The allegations did not surprise him and he thought they had been made public to set him up as an assassination target for Protestant paramilitaries.

The Northern Ireland Office last night said that any arrest or prosecution was a matter for the RUC, the DPP, and eventually the courts.

Mr Carron came to public



Mr Owen Carron — 'made a target'

Jenkin blocks council's decision on £20m store

By Alan Dunn

Mr Patrick Jenkin, the Environment Secretary, has blocked proposals for a £20 million retail development in an Enterprise Zone at Speke, Liverpool, even though the store owners, Asda, have not yet applied for planning permission to Liverpool city council.

There is concern that the plan for a 3,000 square metre store might conflict with a statutory limit of 1,500 square metres for retail stores within the zone.

Sir Trevor Jones, the Liberal leader, last week demanded an inquiry after the district Labour Party's executive had voted not to oppose

any application on the grounds that it would create jobs. This recommendation will be put to a full meeting of the district Labour Party this week and any decision will be followed by the council's ruling Labour group.

Sir Trevor said that there had been all-party agreement on restricting major retail stores in enterprise zones, where developers receive 100 per cent capital grants and are freed of rates.

An Asda spokesman in Leeds said that their proposed store would employ 400 permanent full- and part-time staff and more than double the number during construction.



The wreckage of an aeroplane from which the pilot and two passengers escaped unscathed yesterday after a forced landing on a farm at Elstree, Hertfordshire. The pilot, Mr Shiv Chutani, of Borehamwood, had taken off for Ireland from Elstree aerodrome when the Grumman aircraft's power failed

Hospital contract plea fails

A Labour councillor failed yesterday to persuade the High Court to force Cambridge Health Authority to seek new tenders for a Hospital cleaning contract.

Mr Justice Hodgson rejected a claim by Mrs Janet Jones, who said she had been given a contract by the authority to clean the hospital when it was in breach of the contract.

A dispute over the Government's privatisation policy was behind the case although independent contractors had cleaned the hospital for some time, he said.

The court had been misled last November when Mrs Jones, a member of the authority, was given leave to bring her case, said Mr Justice Hodgson. She had alleged that no guarantees had been given by or on behalf of OCS that it would carry out the contract when she knew that its parent company had given a written guarantee.

Mrs Jones had unfairly criticised health authority officers who would have preferred to give the contract to an in-house cleaning group but found that this would have been more expensive.

Mrs Jones was ordered to pay the costs of the case, which were expected to be met by the National Union of Public Employees.

BP fined £15,000 on safety charge after North Sea fire

BP was fined £15,000 at Aberdeen Sheriff Court yesterday for a blow-out on its Forties Delta platform in the North Sea 18 months ago.

Eleven men suffered burns in the flash fire which lasted for nine hours.

Mr Ray Craig, prosecuting, said the fire followed a release of gas from the well bore hole. Previous drilling by the company in 1971 had encountered a blow-out at a depth of 536 metres close to where Forties Delta now stands.

Seismic tests had also shown the potential of shallow gas-bearing sands in the area of the platform.

Mr Craig said that there had been a shift change on the drill floor and the blow-out happened about 20 minutes later. "It appeared from summary evidence that very little in the way of checks had been made for some time before that," he added.

The checks on the pressure were, to say the least, most unsatisfactory and slack practices had developed. New methods had since been introduced.

It was clear, said Mr Craig, that immediately before the blow-out BP staff failed to maintain their own "adequate" procedures. There was no evidence to say what

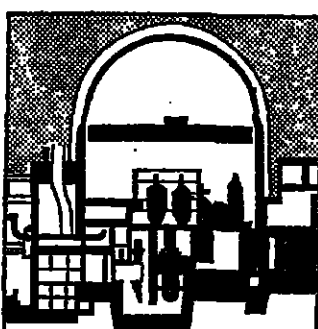
caused the ignition of the gas. It could have been a spark from broken glass or a stone thrown up from the well.

BP took immediate steps to effect correct drilling procedures and co-operated fully with the Department of Energy investigation.

Mr Jim Tierney, defending, said BP had pleaded guilty.

"For whatever reason, the information assimilated in 1971 was not present 12 years later when the company was operating the well. The information had been overlooked at a planning meeting and because of that the accident occurred."

US reactor 'would not doom British nuclear design'



SIZEWELL INQUIRY

By David Fairhall

Building an American-style pressurised water (PWR) nuclear power station on the Suffolk coast would not be the end of British nuclear reactor technology, the Central Electricity Generating Board insisted yesterday.

The South of Scotland Electricity Board's fears that permission to build the first PWR would be a death sentence for the British advanced gas cooled (AGC) design were unfounded, counsel for the CEBG, Lord Silsoe, QC, told the Sizewell public inquiry.

The CEBG was committed to maintain the technical ability to build another AGC, at least

until 1990, by which time it would be clear whether either of the generating boards still wished to do so, he told the inquiry, Sir Frank Layfield, QC.

Lord Silsoe was beginning the inquiry at the Snape Maltings, which began more than two years ago.

He admitted that over this period, the board's case had shifted its emphasis in response to new factors — two of them being the miners' strike and the Scottish board's unexpected vehement defence of the AGC, which it claims would be more economic than its American rival.

Lord Silsoe may also have

Meacher survey reveals gaps in care for old

By David Hencke, Social Services Correspondent

The Government is relying "on a wing and a prayer" to cope with the health needs of elderly and handicapped people over the next decade, Mr Michael Meacher said yesterday.

Mr Meacher, Labour health spokesman, was commenting on the findings of research he had commissioned into 14 regional health authority plans for the next decade.

Provision will be well below guidelines laid down by the Department of Health, the research shows. In some parts of Britain, health authorities will be providing only half the number of day places and three quarters the number of hospital beds needed to cope with the elderly, the handicapped, particularly the mentally handicapped, will have very little help when moved out of hospitals to live in the community.

The analysis covers the whole of England. It shows that the elderly will be hardest hit in the South-west Thames, Wessex and Northern regions. Here, the norm of 10 beds per 1,000 population over the age of 65 will be between 20 and 40 per cent below target. The shortfall of beds will be 46,000.

Only half the target number of day centres will be provided in the Oxford, Northern, South-western, Mersey and West Midlands regions. Nearly half the regional health authorities have stopped using Department of Health guidelines for these places.

Five regions plan to provide recommended services for the mentally ill. No region will do so for the mentally handicapped. Four regions are not working to any national guidelines.

Despite care — provision by the National Health Service of hospitals and homes so that parents looking after the mentally ill and handicapped at home can take a holiday — is not considered important in 60 per cent of regional health authorities.

Transport for the handicapped is also being reduced in 10 of the 14 regions, with private services being asked to fill the gap.

Most of the regions blame the Government for not allowing them enough cash to follow national guidelines.

Big charities are being forced to cut back on the building of extensions to homes for the handicapped because they now have to pay VAT on building work, the VAT Reform Group says in a letter to the Chancellor.

The cut-back comes at time when demand for provision is rising and when local authorities providing exactly the same accommodation are exempt from VAT claims.

Mr Tim Yeo, Conservative MP for South Suffolk and chairman of the VAT Reform Group, is backing a move to exempt charities from paying VAT on residential homes. The 200 largest charities are now estimated to be paying £10 million a year to the Exchequer out of donations after the extension of VAT to building work in last year's budget.

Mr Yeo says that the Registered Homes Act, which came into force in January, is forcing charities to pay even more VAT because building alterations are needed to improve standards.

The Spastics Society is delaying an extension to its residential centre at Bolton because it has to find another £9,000 from donations to pay VAT. It is also having to find nearly £30,000 VAT to cover essential fire regulations improvements.

The Royal National Institute for the Blind said yesterday it has had to find an extra £40,000 to pay the VAT on building alterations to meet the higher standards demanded by the Government.

The Royal British Legion estimates that VAT on building work is adding £50,000 a year to its bills.



Michael Meacher — 'wing and prayer'

Tory leader proposes GLC's successor

By John Carvel, Local Government Correspondent

Plans to create a slim-line London council to look after the interests of the capital after the GLC has been abolished are put forward in a pamphlet to be published today by Mr Alan Greenspan, leader of the GLC Tory group.

He says that it has been prepared at the specific request of a large number of Conservative MPs who are disturbed at the Government's intention to leave London without a city-wide elected voice and who want to know how some new form of assembly could be set up which would not develop into a profligate GLC Mark 2.

Mr Greenspan believes that his proposal is consistent with the 1983 general election pledge to abolish the GLC. He also claims that it could be accommodated within the Abolition Bill with a minimum of redrafting and fuss.

The plan is to have a London-wide body (LWB) with 28 members elected on present Euro-constituency boundaries. It would act as a democratically accountable policy-making body for London-wide functions which cannot sensibly be passed down to the boroughs.

Each year the LWB would prepare a strategic policy plan for London. Mr Greenspan concedes that the Government could have direct control of

the LWB budget total and that this would give ministers greater power than they have had before. He points out, however, that the LWB would remain free to allocate the money between services and the Government would have to justify its decision on the overall budget sum.

The proposal envisages three LWB councillors being elected for each of the eight Euro-constituencies which fall wholly in the present GLC area and two councillors for each of the Euro-seats which lie partly inside the GLC. There would be annual elections as part of the council retired each year by rotation.

Mr Greenspan says that his plan could be accommodated within the Abolition Bill by extending the role of the residual body which ministers want to set up to wind up the GLC's affairs.

"If London and Londoners are to have a voice to which the citizens of every capital city is entitled the establishment of a directly-elected London-wide body is essential," Mr Greenspan says.

His paper argues that the Government's plan for joint boards of borough councillors to take over some London-wide functions is a threat to public accountability. It also attacks centralisation of power in the hands of government ministers.

Campaign against lorry ban

By Geoff Andrews, Transport Correspondent

Road hauliers have been advised to boycott the Greater London Council's plans for a lorry ban in the capital, on the eve of yet another legal confrontation over the scheme between the council and the Transport Secretary, Mr Nicholas Ridley.

Mr Garry Turvey, director-general of the Freight Transport Association, yesterday urged hauliers throughout the South-east not to apply for permits to allow them to operate in the capital when the ban comes into force.

The GLC's Transport committee will decide today to make a last approach to Mr Ridley, asking him to withdraw his directive ordering a public inquiry into the scheme, before going ahead with a High Court action claiming that he has exceeded his powers in forcing a public inquiry.

Mr Ridley's intervention has already delayed implementation of the scheme by about two months from the June target date.

The scheme would prevent lorries over 16.5 tons operating at night and at weekends on the majority of roads in Greater London.

Strike coverage wins awards

By Peter Fiddick

Fleet Street's coverage of the miners' dispute dominates the annual awards made by the Granada Television programme, What The Papers Say.

Four awards were presented yesterday by Mr Norman Tebbit, the Trade Secretary, at

the Savoy Hotel in London. John Lloyd, industrial editor of the Financial Times, was named journalist of the year for his "straight, accurate and sympathetic" reporting and illuminating analysis of the miners' strike.

Geoffrey Goodman, industrial editor of the Mirror group, received the Gerald

Barry Award, named after the editor of the now-extinct News Chronicle.

Scope of the Year was Jon Swain's account in the Sunday Times of how Mr Arthur Scargill had flown to Paris to meet representatives of the Gadafy regime, after a senior NUM executive had been to Libya.

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survey gaps in old

Big charities are being forced to cut back on the building of extensions to their premises for the handicapped because they now have to pay VAT on building work, the VAT Reform Group says. The letter to the Chancellor of the Exchequer comes at a time of great demand for provision of homes and when local authorities are providing exactly the same level of accommodation as in the past. VAT claims are being made by charities for the cost of building extensions to their premises. Mr. Tim Yeo, Conservative MP for South Suffolk and chairman of the VAT Reform Group, is leading a move to exempt charities from VAT on residential homes. He says that charities are being forced to pay VAT on building work in last year's budget. Mr. Yeo says that the Royal National Institute of Deafness, which has a centre at Bolton, is being forced to pay VAT on building alterations to meet a higher standard demanded by the Government. The Royal British Legion is adding £50,000 a year to its costs.



Michael Meacher — 'we and prayer'

r design

started from October 1984. The gap between available requirement was therefore narrower, and even Mr. John Baker, the MP for South Suffolk, would be forced to hold the PWR over for much more than a year of further delay. If the PWR were rejected and the board had to accept an AGC design, the gap was even narrower. Lord Sainsbury, the board chairman, is expected to be told as soon as possible if the PWR was rejected. The inquiry continues.

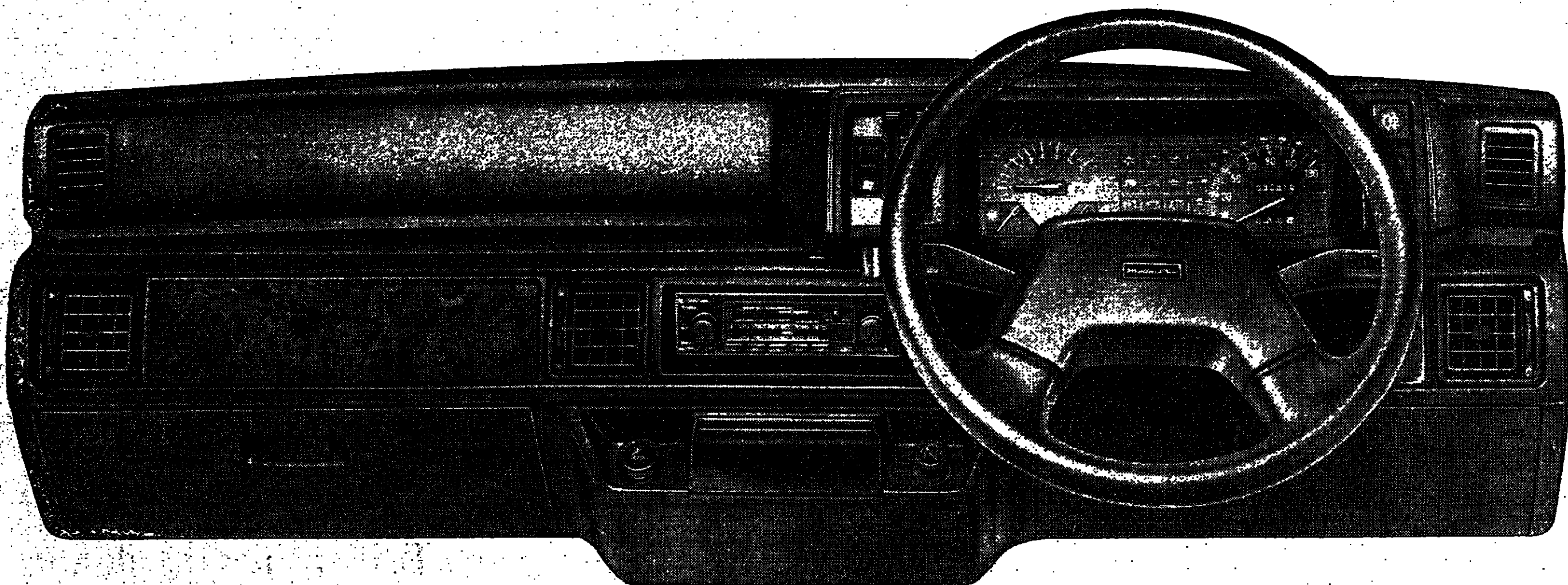
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OVERSEAS NEWS

Bonn-Paris hot line will step up war on leftwing violence

Germany and France to unite against terrorists

From Anna Tomforde

France and West Germany yesterday vowed to form a united front against terrorism, and agreed to set up a joint operational group to deal with the latest wave of extreme leftwing violence. To accelerate the exchange of information, a telex "hot line" between the capitals will be installed.

The French Prime Minister, Mr. Fabius, whose first official visit to Bonn took place amid the events of the past 10 days had forced the two countries to intensify security cooperation and to make it "even more operational."

In a last-minute change of plan, Mr. Fabius brought with him his Interior Minister, Mr. Pierre Joxe, for separate talks with his West German counterpart, Mr. Friedrich Zimmermann, an police expert.

In concrete terms, there will be an increased exchange of information, a comparison between methods of investigation, and coordinated action in the event of attacks.

Both Chancellor Kohl and Mr. Fabius were hard pushed, however, to satisfy journalists that these amounted to the most effective measures that could be envisaged. They said that the two countries would naturally cooperate with other European neighbours affected by terrorism, which had now reached a new international scale.

The French terrorist group, Direct Action and the West German Red Army Faction last month announced a guerrilla offensive against "the multinational structures of Nato," and have claimed responsibility for the killing of a senior French Defence Ministry official and a

West German arms expert in Bonn in the past two weeks.

Bonn officials have lately been embarrassed by questions concerning the wisdom of abolishing border controls between France and West Germany, agreed by Chancellor Kohl and President Mitterrand last autumn as a first step towards a boundary-free Europe.

The measure has come under strong attack from police bodies in the two countries, but government officials maintain that there have been no indications that terrorists have exploited the relaxations.

We have to find ways of combating terrorism without sacrificing the superior goal of reducing border controls," a senior Bonn official said.

Following the assassination in Munich last Friday of the president of the West German Aerospace and Armaments Industry Association, Dr. Ernst Zimmermann, police chiefs have severely criticised the lack of central police responsibility for terrorism.

Mr. Heinrich Böge, the president of the Federal Criminal Office (BKA) in Wiesbaden, said it was a serious mistake to assign Bavarian police to investigate the Zimmermann killing. The murder had not been an "individual isolated act concerning one province," Mr. Böge said, after talks with his counterparts from Belgium and France on Monday.

Meanwhile, the last three of 37 imprisoned members and supporters of the Red Army Faction yesterday gave up their hunger strike, after more than two months. An anonymous letter received by the authorities after the Munich murder said that the plan of the last—the mobilisation of supporters—had been achieved.

Spaniards burn cars at Gibraltar border

From Jane Walker

In Gibraltar

FIVE British and Gibraltar cars were destroyed yesterday when they were attacked by Spanish rightwingers protesting against the opening of the border with Gibraltar.

Within hours of the gates opening for the first time in 16 years, gangs of fanatics smashed the car windows and threw petrol bombs inside the cars which were parked on the

Spanish side of the frontier fence.

The local police chief in the border town of La Linea was surprised by the speed with which the gangs acted. Mr. Juan Sanz said: "It was all well planned. But the vast majority of us here welcome the lifting of restrictions and look forward to going to the Rock to see old friends."

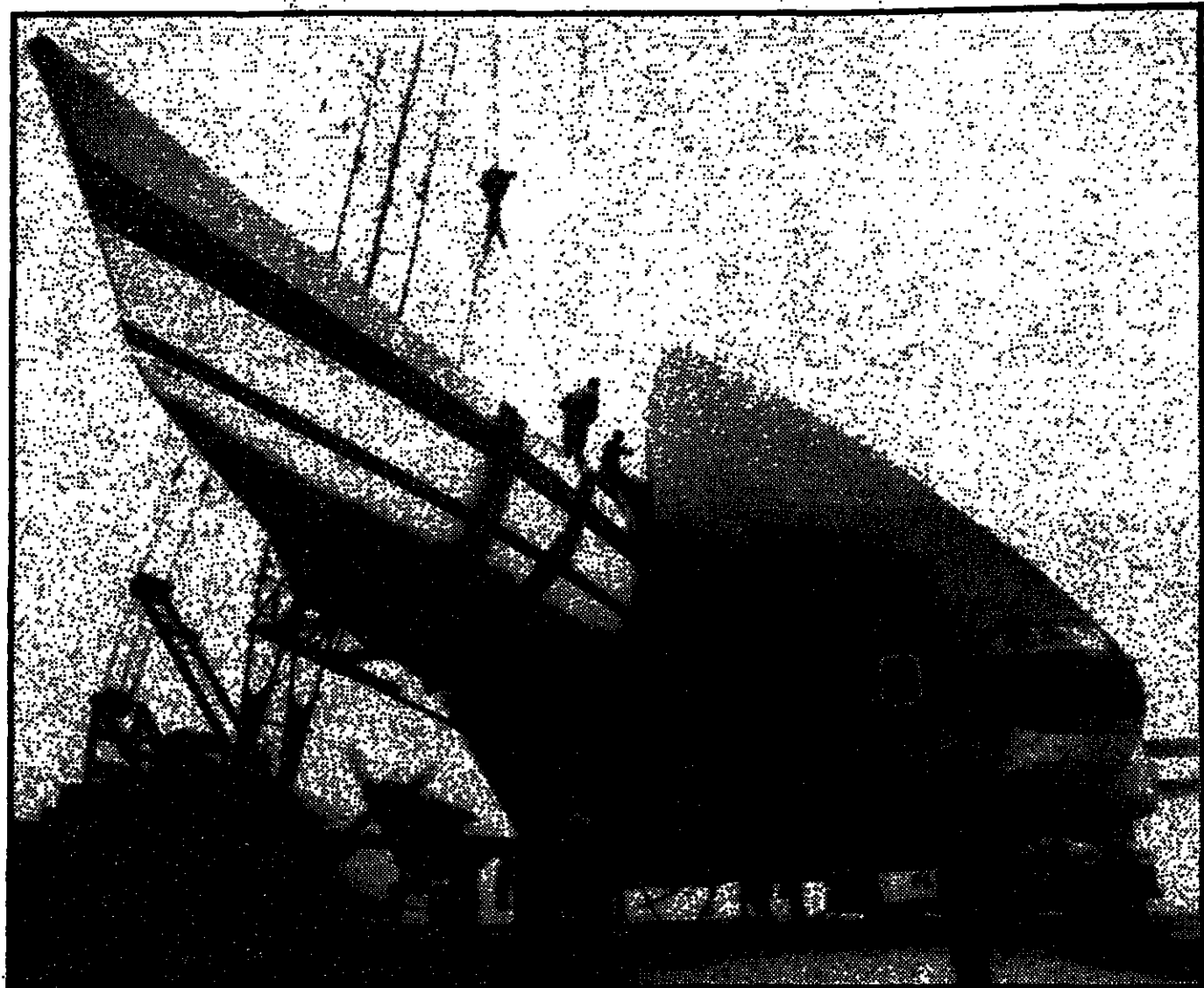
On the Gibraltar side, the welcome was less than warm for the first Spaniards to cross. Jesus Malagon, aged 35, from Algeciras, had waited

since 7 am the previous day to be the first to cross. When he and his fiancée drove into Gibraltar shortly after midnight on their motor scooter, they were pelted with eggs and fruit from a block of workers' flats.

Although the crowd was mostly good humoured, with a visiting Welsh choir singing, there were jeers from a group of young Gibraltarians at the frontier who waved Union Jacks and chanted at Spanish visitors "Go back to Spain. We don't want you."

A poll published yesterday in a local magazine showed that while 76 per cent of the inhabitants of the Rock were in favour of the border opening, 18 per cent preferred it to remain closed. An overwhelming 94 per cent of them were opposed to the question of sovereignty being discussed in Geneva.

Twelve hours after the blockade was lifted, only 15 vehicles had crossed from Gibraltar into Spain, while 170 cars and lorries had carried passengers and goods to the rock.



SEAPLANE: A giant Super Guppy air transport clamps its jaws round the new Swiss entry for the Whitbread Round the World Yacht Race. The plane flew the yacht from Geneva to the Mediterranean

Yugoslav professor is imprisoned for contacting exiles in Paris

By Hella Pick

A Yugoslav of philosophy has been given an 18 month gaol sentence in Belgrade for contacting Serbo-Croat émigrés while visiting Paris. He has gone on hunger strike in protest.

The trial of Prof. Milan Mladenovic, 47, was held in secret. He is charged with having taken part in the Yugoslav party establishment itself. The years since Tito's death in 1981 have created an acute awareness of serious flaws in Yugoslavia's complex power structure.

The federal Government is unable to enforce its economic policies because of its limited powers in Yugoslavia's federal structure. Experience has shown that the Communist parties in the country's six republics and two autonomous provinces can block the decisions of the federal party executive, compounding the difficulty of complying with Yugoslavia's obligations to the International Monetary Fund, and other Western creditors, who are propping up the ailing economy.

The delicate subject of political reform in Yugoslavia is on the agenda of the Yugoslav League of Communists, even though hardline strongholds in the Republics of Croatia and

Bosnia are resisting any change.

The move against the dissident intellectuals was seen from the beginning as part of a policy of trying to confine the reform debate to party insiders. If there is to be reform — and that is far from certain — it would have to be managed within limits, clearly defined from within the party.

The reform debate could not become a free for all because the party establishment appeared to fear that this might undermine the institutionalised "self-management" consensus, constructed so painstakingly by President Tito as his legacy to Yugoslavia. He died optimistic that he had built safeguards against the country's fragmentation.

The original charge against the Belgrade six, all of them Serbians, was plotting to overthrow the state. This was later reduced to spreading hostile propaganda. Then the charges against one of the accused were dropped altogether. The remaining five have been free on bail since July. Two of them are still to be tried, with no dates yet announced. The three who were sentenced on

Monday are to appeal, and will remain on bail, possibly for many months.

From the beginning, the action against the dissidents, as well as the separate charges against Prof. Mladenovic, were interpreted as an attempt by Yugoslavia's political leadership to define the limits of free debate, and to some extent even the limits of free contact with the outside world.

The case against Prof. Mladenovic involved special emotions, since he was charged with contacting Croatian émigrés.

In as much as such trials can really define the limits of public debate, the Yugoslav courts have achieved little. The confusion that has marked the conduct of the trial of the Belgrade intellectuals, together with the light sentences handed down, merely confirm the indecision within the divided ranks of Yugoslavia's political barons.

Yugoslavia is again involved in difficult negotiations for Western credits to prop up its economy. Mild sentences were the least gesture that could be offered. But they have certainly not resolved Yugoslavia's deepening crisis.

By Greg Chamberlain

Stalinist Albania, for the past 40 years Europe's most isolated, puritan and totalitarian state, is considering ties with the nearby capitalist holiday island of Corfu.

The plan emerged during a recent rare visit to Athens by the Albanian Foreign Trade Minister, Mr. Shani Korbei. He agreed to double trade with Greece this year and to think about letting the Greeks in to build a \$7 million plant to process chrome, of which Albania is the world's third largest producer.

A possible air or sea link across the mile-wide channel between Corfu and Albania is part of a quickening drive by the Albanian leader Mr. Enver Hoxha, to thaw relations with his neighbours.

He hopes that this will help his chosen heir, the titular head of state, Mr. Ramiz Alia, survive expected attempts by the Soviet Union and the US to regain influence in the strategically-placed Balkan state, which has vehemently shunned both East and West for decades.

Three weeks ago, Greek and Albanian officials staged a festive reopening of the

By Greg Chamberlain

point between the two countries at Kakavia. The previous day, a 20-mile stretch of railway line reaching to the Yugoslav border was inaugurated.

When the Yugoslavs finish work on their side in a few months' time, this will give Albania its first rail link to the outside world.

The reopened border will initially be only for sports teams and cultural groups rather than ordinary members of the large Greek-speaking minority of southern Albania, but even that is remarkable in a country seldom visited by even junior ministers from foreign governments.

The Hoxha regime signed five technical and scientific agreements with Athens in December and in the past few months has made similar unprecedented accords with West Germany, Austria, Turkey and Italy.

Albania's relations with its biggest neighbour, Yugoslavia, which Mr. Hoxha has always accused of plotting to overthrow him, are still prickly, however. Cultural talks were angrily broken off last October, reopening of the

Missile to go back

From Donald Fields

In Helsinki

Finland will hand over the remains of the Russian target missile that crashed on its territory to the Soviet Union, from which it is seeking financial compensation for the work involved.

These were the key points of the Foreign Ministry's reply last night to a Soviet request for the debris gathered by the Finns from the bed and shores of Lake Inari, near the Norwegian frontier. A statement said the material would be surrendered "in the latter half of this week."

Military officials are discussing the technical details while

the wreckage is scrutinised by an airforce board of inquiry. How complete the published survey will be is a matter of speculation, since it was noticeable that officers prevented the news media from closing in on the electronic navigation system and fuel tank after they were raised from the lake.

Officials refused to disclose how big their claim for "direct costs" would be, but one estimate puts the services of military personnel involved in collecting the debris in intense cold at more than £500 an hour. The Soviet Union gave Finland some remuneration in 1977 when an Aeroflot airliner hijacked to Helsinki during a domestic flight was returned.

EEC gives in to beef

From Derek Brown

In Brussels

Australia has secured a valuable assurance that the EEC will not "invade" the growing Pacific market for beef.

After talks here yesterday between the EEC Agriculture Commissioner, Mr. Frans Andriessen, and the Australian Minister for Primary Industry, Mr. John Kerin, the Commission announced that it would not extend its much criticised export subsidies to the Far East.

Australia regards the Pacific Basin market as its own,

US leads nuclear test 'league table'

Geneva: The Geneva Conference on Disarmament was told yesterday that 1,572 nuclear explosions have been conducted between 1945 and 1984 by the world's six nuclear powers. In recent years, the Soviet Union carried out more tests than the United States.

Maj. Britt Theorin, the chief Swedish delegate to the meeting, said that according to information compiled by Sweden's National Defence Research Institute, the United States, with 722 explosions, remained the leader in what he called a "gloomy competition."

She gave the number of Soviet nuclear explosions, which she said were stepped up in recent years, as 558. France carried out 127, Britain, 37, and China, 29 explosions, India conducted one.

In 1984 she said, the Soviet total of 27 included 17 at the usual base sites in Semipalatinsk and Novaya Zemlya while others were carried out in other areas "and may therefore have been conducted for non-military purposes."

The United States, she said, carried out 16 tests in 1984 at the Nevada site while France carried out seven and Britain one in the Pacific. Two Chinese test explosions were observed in 1984, she said. All tests were conducted underground.

Maj. Theorin cited the figures in issuing a fresh call for immediate negotiations on a treaty banning all nuclear tests. Tests in the atmosphere,

in outer space, and under water were banned by the 1963 limited test ban treaty. France and China have not joined the treaty.

Meanwhile, Tass said in Moscow that the Nato secretary-general, Lord Carrington, had joined US hawks by supporting plans for a shield against nuclear attack.

Lord Carrington appeared to be "joining the hawks which advocate preparations for Star Wars," Tass said, basing its conclusion on statements he reportedly made in an interview with the Japanese newspaper, Mainichi.

Tass said Lord Carrington earlier called for East and West to conduct constructive negotiations and not engage in

what he called megaphone diplomacy.

"But now he joins in such diplomacy himself whereby there is no shortage of lofty sounding pronouncements concerning the striving for nuclear disarmament but in effect no desire at all to arrive at constructive decisions."

Tass said that Soviet-US negotiations had not yet started but Lord Carrington, "just like some figures in Washington, already speaks of insurmountable difficulties, the need for all kinds of clarifications and so forth. This is precisely what is called megaphone diplomacy."

The Communist Party daily, Pravda, also carried a commentary attacking plans for the Strategic Defence Initiative.

Meese wins nomination fight

From Mark Tran

In Washington

The Senate Judiciary Committee yesterday approved, by comfortable margin, Mr. Edwin Meese's nomination as Attorney-General despite spirited opposition from Democrats on the panel who found his ethical standards less than pristine. The vote was 12-6. The matter will go forward to the full Senate which is expected to uphold the committee decision.

Two Democrats, Senators Dennis DeConcini (Arizona) and Howell Heflin (Alabama) voted with the 10 Republicans who supported Mr. Meese. "I have decided to give Mr. Meese the benefit of the doubt," said Mr. Heflin adding that this was a "troubling problem."

Mr. Meese's approval by the

committee effectively brings his travels to an end. Since his nomination as the country's 75th Attorney-General last January, he has had to withstand intense scrutiny of his private life. He had to undergo two rounds of committee appearances — last March and last week. He had to face hostile questioning which at one point reduced his wife, Ursula, to tears.

Senator Edward Kennedy's remarks before casting his vote against Mr. Meese underlined the strong feelings aroused by Mr. Meese's nomination. "The degree of Mr. Meese's commitment to fair and impartial enforcement of laws is in question," the Senator said. "Mr. Meese is associated with this Administration's policies that undermine the principles of fairness and jus-

tice and with an administration which has hung out a sign saying 'white men only'."

In other changes which add a strong conservative flavour to the White House, the new Chief of Staff, Mr. Donald Regan, announced yesterday the appointment of three senior deputies.

The conservative columnist and former Nixon speech writer, Mr. Patrick Buchanan, will become the new head of communications. Mr. Buchanan's appointment should reassure conservatives, who feel that they have lost headway in recent staff changes. Another Nixon and Ford hand, Mr. Max Friedersdorf, will handle relations with Congress, and Mr. Edward Rollins, the former White House campaign director, returns to handle political and intergovernmental affairs.

Mr Edwin Meese

Reagan threatens to halt aid

From Hobart Rowen

In Washington

President Reagan has served notice on the World Bank that the US may end support for the bank's subsidised Third World aid programme after the present US cash commitment expires in two years.

In his 1986 budget message to Congress Mr. Reagan said that the Administration intended to honour existing commitments — to the bank's International Development Association (IDA), as well as to the Asian Development Fund and the African Development Fund.

But he added that, "in the light of the current severe fiscal pressures, the Administration is not budgeting at this time for the future replenishments of these particular institutions."

The Bank's aid programme is carried out through the IDA, an affiliate that the US helped to launch in 1961.

World Bank officials were gloomy on future prospects after the statement. "We take this seriously," the senior vice president, Mr. Moeen Qureshi said. "Signals by the US have a tremendous impact on other countries, which understand that IDA is a burden-sharing programme."

If the US took the position that it wouldn't contribute, it would be difficult to negotiate with other donor countries," he said. "It could spell the end of the IDA."

In his budget, the President asked for \$750 million as the second annual instalment of a three-year promise of \$2.25 billion for the current IDA programme. The US will then

make one more \$750 million payment in 1987.

The IDA programme, the largest source of multilateral soft-loan aid, has been the subject of sometimes bitter clashes between the World Bank and the US since the start of the Reagan Administration. —Washington Post

Reuter adds: President Reagan has asked Congress yesterday for \$14.8 billion in foreign aid next year, including new military aid for Guatemala, but a small increase in military aid for El Salvador. The request was \$774 million less than this year's aid budget.

It includes \$1.8 billion in military aid for Israel, but no economic aid. Officials said that this was being held up by Israel's refusal to take steps to halt its runaway inflation.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Five die in India rioting

FIVE people were killed and 45 wounded yesterday when police fired on 10,000 rioting demonstrators demanding better train services in suburban Bombay.

Thousands of protesters squatted on railway tracks, hurled stones at trains and police, and set fire to a freight train at Bhayandar station.

At least 29 policemen were injured; the police opened fire after failing to disperse the mob with truncheons.

Most of the protesters belonged to a group called the Bhayandar agitation committee, which demands a train shuttle service between Bhayandar and another suburban station.—AP

Sainly inquiry

THE Vatican yesterday established a nine-member commission to investigate allegations about the life of St. Maria Goretti, an 11-year-old from a poor family south of Rome, who was stabbed to death in 1902 by a neighbour who tried to rape her. The panel will investigate allegations that the girl's killer, Alessandro Serenelli, claimed that Maria had resisted his advances on previous occasions.—AP

Jew sentenced

A MOSCOW court has sentenced a Jewish activist, Mr. Alexander Kholmyansky, to 18 months in a labour camp on charges of possessing live ammunition that his wife alleges was planted in their flat. Dissident sources said Mr. Kholmyansky was arrested last summer after KGB agents searched his Moscow flat. At the time, his wife said the searchers had placed a pistol and ammunition in the flat.—AP

Nun cleared

THE Provincial Supreme Court of South Africa has overturned a conviction and gaol term against a black Roman Catholic nun charged with possessing a document of the banned African National Congress. The court accepted that there was no proof the document found in the possession of Sister Bernard Neuber was published by or for the ANC.—AP

Blockade ends

COMMERCIAL traffic was operating normally at Switzerland's borders after a one-day blockade by lorry drivers, the finance ministry said. A splinter group of the national hauliers association had blocked all commercial crossing points to try to force the government to exclude foreign lorry drivers from a new heavy goods toll imposed this year.—Reuter

Campus boycott

STUDENTS boycotted classes yesterday at Swaziland's only university, which reopened after a month's closure due to demonstrations. Student sources said. Students had to sign a form saying that they would take up grievances with university officials rather than student representative bodies, and not meet off campus.—Reuter

Last stake

A TEXAS gambler, William Bergstrom, aged 33, who last year created Nevada gambling history by losing \$1 million dollars on a single roll of the dice, has apparently committed suicide, police said in Las Vegas yesterday. Bergstrom's body was discovered by a man in a hotel room on the Las Vegas gambling "strip."—Reuter

Arafat in Algiers

THE PLO chief, Mr. Yasser Arafat, has made an unexpected visit to Algiers at the same time as the Syrian Vice-President, Abdelhalim Khaddam, encouraging speculation that Arafat is seeking a reconciliation within the divided PLO may be successful.—AP

Highest prices

DENMARK is by far the most expensive of the European countries to live in, according to a Commission purchasing power survey. Danes have to pay 8.5 per cent more for an average basket of goods and services than do West Germans.—Reuter

Blast deaths

THREE people were killed and some 20 others injured when an explosion ripped through an eight-story apartment building minutes after firemen put out an electrical fire, authorities said in Marseille.—AP

TV strike

A 24-HOUR strike called by Italy's National Press Federation blocked out radio and TV news bulletins yesterday and was expected to prevent the publication of newspapers today.—Reuter

Five die in India rioting

Five people were killed and 100 injured in rioting in India.

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OVERSEAS NEWS

THE GUARDIAN Wednesday February 6 1985 7

Army sources say both sides have taken heavy casualties

Sandinista troops pound rebels in fierce battles

Managua: Troops loyal to the Sandinista Government engaged rebels in fierce battles in northern Nicaragua on Monday night that blacked out runway lights minutes after the rebel plane landed on its return from a visit to northern Peru.

The blackout, which also affected the city, was caused by dynamite attacks which brought down three pylons in Lima's eastern suburbs. The attack appeared to have been carried out by the Maoist-led guerrillas of Sendero Luminoso (Shining Path), who have been engaged in an armed struggle against the elected government of President Fernando Belaunde for the past four-and-a-half years.

As the lights went out in Lima, bombs in the shape of a giant hammer and sickle landed on a hillside overlooking the city centre. Dynamite was thrown at two banks in the north of the city.

The Pope will end his Peruvian tour at Iquitos, in the Amazon jungle, before flying on to Trinidad. The Pope bid an emotional farewell to Lima at an early morning meeting in the sprawling shanty town of Villa El Salvador. In the desert south of the capital.

The Pope's tour mobilised the crowds, but its lasting impact on a troubled democracy and a divided Church was difficult to measure. The recurring threats in Peru were a muscular anti-communism, and a plea for peace rooted in an attack on insurrectionary violence and class struggle.

This was softened by a call to both church and lay leaders to work to reduce the inequalities and injustices which the Pope saw as promoting what he called "ideologies that proclaim hatred, rancour and

Pope's plane land as guerrillas cut runway lights

From Mike Reid, in Lima

THE POPE left Lima yesterday unaffected by a guerrilla sabotage attack on Monday night that blacked out runway lights minutes after the rebel plane landed on its return from a visit to northern Peru.

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Wellwishers struggle to clasp the hands of the Pope in Trujillo

resentment as the motors of international approach to debt history." But he failed to address himself explicitly to the issue of human rights.

The Pope also repeated his call for just economic relations, usually by tight security operation between rich and poor countries, involving more than 20,000 police and troops. He

was greeted by vociferous crowds, with about a quarter of Peru's 19 million population turning out for the events in an exhausting schedule.

Frequent changes of attitude and climate left the Pope looking tired and ill on occasions. Ayacucho, aimed at drawing

With temperatures in Lima in the eighties, the huge crowds who spent many hours waiting for the Pope's appearance at the capital's racecourse were bused down by firemen at their own request.

The climax of the papal visit came in a half-hour speech on Sunday in the Andean city of Ayacucho, the centre of a protracted civil war between the armed forces and the guerrillas of Sendero Luminoso.

Most of the speech appeared to be directed at the guerrillas and their sympathisers, to whom he made an emphatic call to "change your path" and "seek the ways of dialogue and not those of violence." Breaking from his prepared text, the Pope said that "Ayacucho is Christian, because, like Christ, it suffers."

However, to the surprise of some church sources, the Pope made no direct references to allegations of human rights violations by the security forces, whom a recent Amnesty International report charged with responsibility for the disappearance of more than 1,000 people in the past two years.

The security operation reached a peak in Ayacucho, involving helicopters and armoured cars. This may have helped to cut the Pope's audience to less than 20,000 of the 200,000 people expected by the organisers assembling in the forecourt of the city's militarised airport.

Among those who did not attend was Ayacucho's mayor, Leonor Zamora, a persistent critic of the security forces. She was turned back at a checkpoint, as she intended to give the Pope a letter protesting against human rights violations. The security forces also confiscated placards carried by a group of Mothers of Ayacucho, aimed at drawing

attention to the plight of relatives who have disappeared.

In a counterpoint to his Ayacucho message, the Pope earlier criticised "extreme differences between social classes" and governmental corruption in a speech in the former Inca capital of Cusco. There he addressed a crowd estimated at 800,000 people, mainly Indian peasant farmers, assembled in the ruins of the ancient fortress of Sacsayhuaman, high above the city. The Pope was presented with a traditional Peruvian poncho, and an Inca-style wooden staff of office.

The Pope produced no surprises in his treatment of liberation theology, showing few signs of wanting to ignite a debate on a subject that has divided the Peruvian church.

He quoted approvingly from the Peruvian bishops' document on liberation theology issued in November, a document which did not deliver the public rebuke sought by the Vatican to Peru's liberation theologian, Gustavo Gutierrez. But the Pope also criticised "apparent, partial liberations, that do not consider sufficiently the spiritual dimension of man."

For the duration of the Pope's visit, Peru's political parties suspended campaigning for general elections due in April. Taken as a whole, the Pope's pronouncements were sufficiently broad and generalised that selective interpretation will enable all parties to claim some pontifical support for their positions.

However, if some of the Pope's insistent anti-communism sticks, the visit may serve to diminish the electoral chances of Lima's mayor, Alfonso Barrantes, the presidential candidate of the Marxist-oriented Izquierda Unida coalition.

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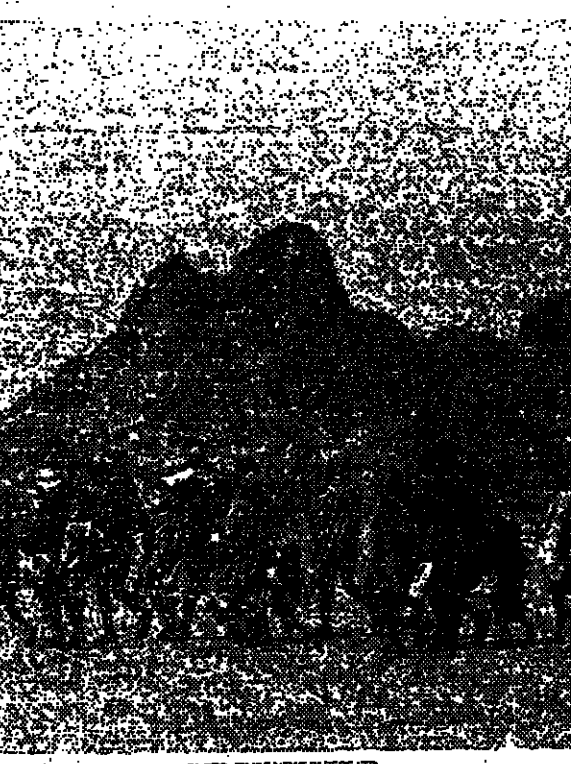
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Aid sent through the Ethiopian government is not reaching 90% of the drought and famine affected people of Tigray, Northern Ethiopia. As a result, since October, over 70,000 Tigrayans have died and 3,000 are fleeing daily to Sudan. Aid through REST - the only organisation working directly in Tigray - can stop this. Help us keep people alive and through our terracing, water conservation and road building programmes help them become self-sufficient.

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OVERSEAS NEWS

Government denies laxity over attacks on Israeli troops

Amman is blamed for West Bank terrorism

From Ian Black, in Jerusalem

The Defence Minister, Mr Rabin, said yesterday that the recent spate of attacks against Israeli targets in the occupied West Bank was being planned and co-ordinated from the Jordanian capital, Amman.

Although his statement did not include a specific warning to King Hussein, Mr Rabin's remarks were interpreted here as a clear sign that Israel will not tolerate a large-scale return to PLO guerrilla activity being organised from Jordan.

The minister was speaking in the Knesset against a motion of no confidence tabled by the small, right-wing Tehiya faction. The motion was defeated. Tehiya and other right wingers are uneasy about what they say is an official laxity in the face of attacks on Israeli soldiers and civilians in the West Bank.

"Amman has become a centre of planning, and giving orders for acts of terrorism to be perpetrated in Israel," Mr Rabin said. "All the branches of the defence establishment will take every step required to find the murderers and bring them to justice. And we will get them."

The ceasefire line along the Jordan river between Israel and Jordan has been quiet for years, and there has been no significant PLO guerrilla activity organised from Amman since the expulsion of the Palestinians from Jordan in 1970. But since the PLO was expelled from Beirut in 1982, Amman has again become a centre for the guerrilla organisation which remain loyal to the leadership of Mr Arafat.

AP adds: In the West Bank city of Ramallah, meanwhile, soldiers hit them more than 100 businesses and shops until today to punish merchants for not cooperating with a search for a gunman who shot and killed an Israeli soldier on Monday.

A group of residents from Dheisheh refugee camp, near Bethlehem, a focal point of clashes in recent months, accused soldiers of physically abusing men during a roundup of 23 young Palestinians there over the weekend. The army said that the detainees were suspected of inciting shooting and firebomb attacks on Israeli vehicles on a main highway alongside the camp.

Two residents said the soldiers hit them when the troops failed to find their sons at home during the sweep.

"This is an example of collective punishment, which is so well known for evil in Jewish history," said professor Israel Shahar, of the Israel League for Human Rights. An army spokesman said the accusations were "nonsense."

Saudis to back Lebanon currency

BEIRUT: Saudi Arabia is reported yesterday to be ready to inject \$500 million into Lebanon's treasury to help halt the rapid depreciation of the Lebanese currency.

Local radio stations and newspapers said a millionaire businessman, Mr Rafiq Hariri, Saudi Arabia's main expert on Lebanese affairs, made the pledge of aid at a meeting late on Monday night with President Amin Gemayel and the Prime Minister Mr Rashid Karami.

The Lebanese-born Saudi emissary flew to Beirut at President Gemayel's invitation after the Lebanese pound plunged more than 16 per cent against the US dollar in one day, closing at a record low of 15.20 to the dollar on Monday.

The pound rallied yesterday on the Beirut money market—to a range of 12.85 to 13.50 to the dollar—and the state radio attributed the slight recovery to reports of the Saudi aid.

Mr Karami said in a radio address after the meeting with Mr Hariri that Lebanon was appealing for US and Saudi assistance to shore up Lebanon's economy.

Mr Hariri had also agreed to reverse a decision he took three weeks ago, calling off reconstruction works by his company in the heavily bomb-damaged commercial district.

His decision was attributed at the time to his impatience with repeated interference in his firm's operations by rival Muslim and Christian militias. He was also quoted as saying that he wants to devote his firm to the reconstruction of his home town of Sidon once Israel's occupation army withdraws from the provincial capital of south Lebanon.—A.P.

Indians 'expel East bloc agents'

New Delhi: India's spy scandal widened yesterday after a newspaper said that the Government had expelled Polish and East German contacts of the espionage ring and hinted that there could be more action against diplomats.

The Government said that investigations were continuing, but maintained its news blackout on the affair.

The latest disclosure was made in the respected Hindu newspaper, which said that India had taken the same action against the two Eastern bloc countries as it did in expelling the French deputy military attaché, Lieutenant-Colonel Alain Boley, last month.

The Delhi businessman, Mr Coomarr Narkin, named as the head of the espionage network, has said in court that he passed India's most sensitive secrets to the three countries.

The External Affairs Ministry refused to comment on the report but hinted that the affair was far from over. "Investigations are continuing, along with appropriate action," a spokesman said.

The Press Trust of India news agency reported that intelligence agents had also issued a warrant for the arrest of Mr Yogesh Manekial, managing director of the company which employed Mr Narkin.

In his reported statement to a New Delhi court sitting in camera on Monday Mr Narkin said the firm, SLM Manekial and Company, made a fortune from information he gave it from his contacts.

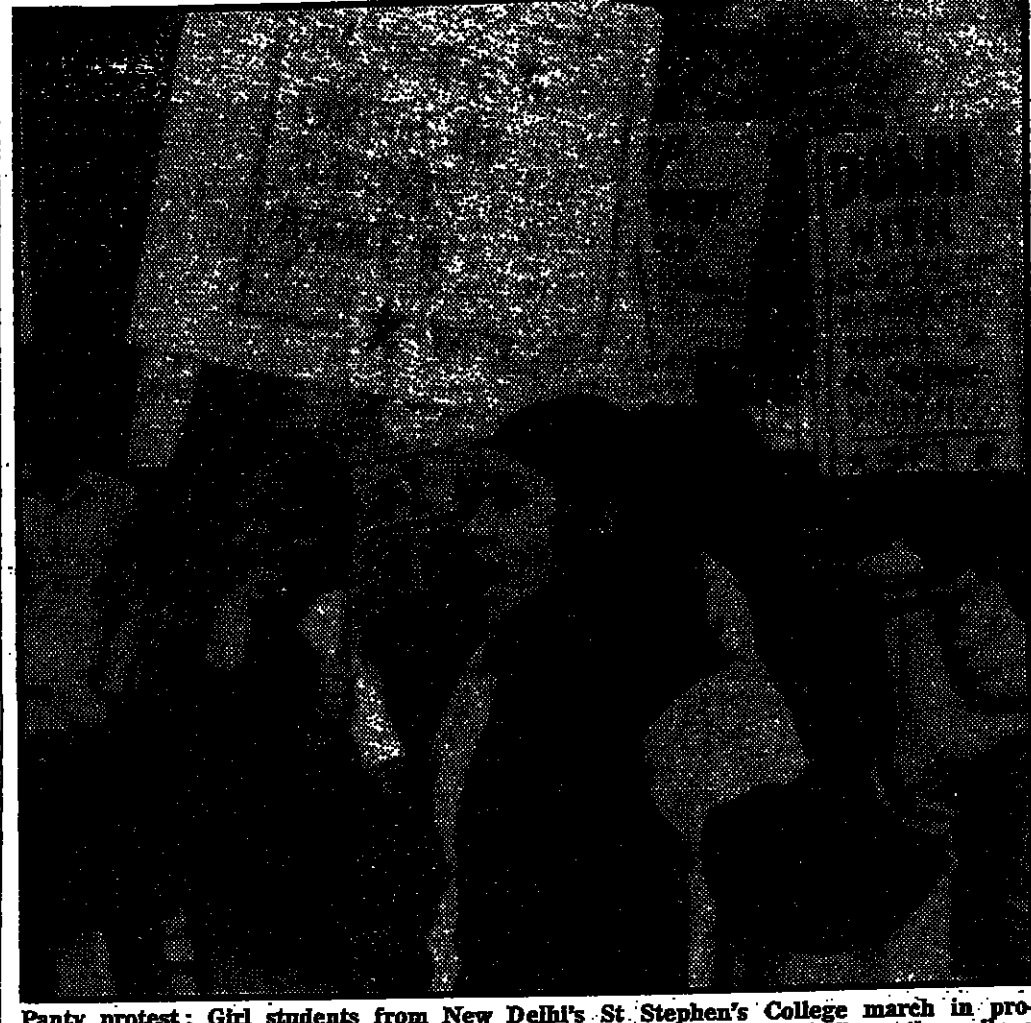
The company, a manufacturing conglomerate, is involved in heavy engineering and textiles.

Mr Manekial has described Mr Narkin's statement as rubbish. "Whatever commercial information I used to get from him only pertained to my business," he said.

Since the scandal broke three weeks ago, 15 people, including employees of the Prime Minister's office, have been arrested for passing on secrets.

France has withdrawn its ambassadors and two senior civil servants have gone on leave prior to retirement after their aides were arrested.

The affair has clouded the visit here next week of the British leader, General Brian James, and a trip to Prime Minister Mr Gandhi, was considering making to Paris in May.—Reuter.



Panty protest: Girl students from New Delhi's St Stephen's College march in protest at sexual harassment after male students made a "panty raid" on the college.

Khmer stronghold falls to Vietnamese

From Nicholas Cumming-Bruce in Bangkok

Vietnamese troops have captured a number of Khmer Rouge bases in western Kampuchea, including the mountain stronghold of Ang Kohal, after several days of fierce fighting that has driven thousands of civilians to flee for safety along the border with Thailand.

Ang Kohal, a Khmer Rouge divisional headquarters south of the Thai border, was captured by Vietnamese troops supported by tanks and artillery. It was the third Khmer Rouge stronghold to fall during what appears to be the recovery of the border area.

An estimated 5,000 to 10,000 Kampuchean civilians are now scattered along the Thai border in the vicinity of Khao Din, a Khmer Rouge camp 25 miles south of Aranyaprathet.

Many more are understood to be moving from other Khmer Rouge camps to the south towards Tap Phrik, several miles further north.

Details of Khmer Rouge casualties are not known, as the group allows very few of its members to be seen by the International Red Cross hospital at Khao-I-Dang, eight miles inside Thailand.

Damper on Kim return

Seoul: Police yesterday seized wall posters urging people to stage a big welcome for the opposition leader, Mr Kim Dae-jung, when he returns here on Friday after two years of exile in the United States.

Opposition politicians, dissidents and civil rights and church leaders have formed a 550-strong welcome committee for him, but are not certain that they will be allowed to greet him at the airport.

Mr Kim, who was arrested in 1980, is expected to return to South Korea after two years of exile in the United States.

Side valleys were reported to have been bombed and villages along the way warned that they would be punished if they aided guerrillas in attacking the column.

Latest reports from diplomatic observers and guerrillas point to moves to cut supply routes at the other end of the Panjshir as well.

Soviet troops opened fire with machine-guns at a base in the south-eastern city of Kandahar, killing about 17, West German diplomatic reports said. The killings were in apparent retaliation for the assassination of an Afghan party official.

Britain protests to Syria

By Patrick Kealey, Diplomatic Correspondent

The Syrian chargé d'affaires, Mr Zuhair Namani, was summoned to the Foreign Office in London yesterday to be told of Britain's strong disapproval of the activities of three Syrians who were deported a few days ago.

At the same time it was announced in Damascus that the strong disapproval of British

British ambassador there, Mr Roger Tomkys, had been summoned to the Foreign Ministry to receive a stiff complaint about the same action, with the Syrians declaring that their citizens were wholly innocent of any terrorism or other undercover activity.

The chargé d'affaires was left in no doubt about the strong disapproval of British

ministers for what the Syrian citizens had been doing. All that is publicly known is that four suspected Arab terrorists were deported. Their names have not been released, nor would officials comment on speculation that they had come here to launch an armed attack on the London offices of the Palestine Liberation Organisation.

France has withdrawn its ambassadors and two senior civil servants have gone on leave prior to retirement after their aides were arrested.

The affair has clouded the visit here next week of the British leader, General Brian James, and a trip to Prime Minister Mr Gandhi, was considering making to Paris in May.—Reuter.

THE DAY IN POLITICS

Kinnock accuses PM of 'economic sabotage'



Mr Kinnock: 'Same view'

QUESTION TIME

By Alan Travis
BRITAIN is well pleased with the economic situation, the Prime Minister claimed yesterday in the face of Labour challenges that many sections of industry were now critical of his strategy.

Mr Neil Kinnock told Mrs Thatcher at question time that the latest unemployment figures had shown that all her strategy had achieved was an act of economic sabotage.

The Labour leader said: "In no other year has production been down, the pound is down, the trade balance is down and manufacturing imports are up by 10 per cent. Interest rates are up by 50 per cent, and the

unemployment rate is up by 150,000."

The Prime Minister replied that the country was witnessing the lowest inflation, the highest output, record investment levels, a 20 per cent increase in NHS spending and the honouring of pledges to the pensioners.

Mr Kinnock said: "We are used to hearing the Prime Minister's tale of recovery. To be told we are in the fourth year of recovery and unemployment is at 3.5 million is a definition of economic boom unknown to me." He said that those were not his words but were a quotation from Mr Alistair Burt, the Conservative MP for Bury North, writing in the latest issue of the Reformer, the journal of the Tory Reform Group, whose president is Mr Peter Walker.

Mr Kinnock replied: "I am most concerned about Britain and the real Britain. The real Britain, that is the three chairmen of chambers of commerce, the British In-

stitute of Management, the Confederation of British Industry and the North-east area of the Institute of Directors."

He said they wrote to the Times yesterday, asking the Prime Minister for a programme of public works, dismissed the idea of tax cuts as a way of promoting recovery and asked her to do something now to bring down unemployment. "Tory MPs and businessmen of every type are now saying, 'listen and learn, change your policies'."

The Prime Minister replied that recent CBI forecasts had shown business to be optimistic and confident with record sales, record output and rising profits. "Business is very well pleased," said Mrs Thatcher.

But, he insisted at question time, the "best possible prospect for jobs" existed if the strike was settled.

Following last month's record 3,341,000 unemployment figures, Mr King faced a barrage of criticism from Labour MPs, who claimed that the real figure — including those on government training schemes and those who did not register for unemployment — was 4.5 million.

But Mr King stressed that the number of new jobs was continuing to increase, though not keeping up with the number of people coming on to jobs market for the first time.

In reply to Mr Richard Hickmet (C. Glamford and Souththorpe), Mr King said it was extremely difficult to obtain a figure showing the impact of the miners' strike on unemployment. "It is something I would like to see, because there is no doubt at all that the miners' strike and the length it has lasted has been extremely damaging to employment prospects in this country," said Mr King.

Repeating to Mr Michael McGuire (Lab. Makerfield), Mr King insisted: "There is not a net loss of jobs. There is now at last again an increase in the number of jobs. What we have also seen is an increase in the working population, and that is why we have to see that increase in jobs further enhanced."

The former Labour leader, Mr Michael Foot (Blenheim, Gwent) said that in the last months of the Labour Government unemployment had been coming down. "If your Government could achieve any comparable figures you would say that it was the biggest miracle since the loaves and the fishes," he told Mr King.

But the Employment Secretary retorted that Mr Foot and other Labour ministers had deliberately obstructed the restructuring of major parts of the British industry. "The history books will recognise that a precious opportunity was lost by the incompetence of the Labour Government at that time," said Mr King.

ALLEGATIONS THAT SDP leaders are holding up agreement over the share-out of Westminster seats will be heard at a special meeting of the Liberal Party national executive before a meeting of the party's council on Saturday.

The SDP leaders are understood to have refused to allow some seats to go forward for approval because of the SDP's insistence that constituencies should be dealt with on an area basis.

The joint working group between the two parties at Westminster has managed to reach agreement on a list of about 110 Westminster constituencies to decide which party fights where. This will be published tomorrow.

THE Speaker of the Commons, Mr Bernard Weatherill, ruled yesterday that comment on a

WHITE PAPER

New demo controls

By our Political Staff

A WHITE PAPER on the review of the Public Order Act will be published tomorrow by the Home Secretary, Mr Leon Brittan, proposing new controls over static demonstrations. Part of the review's task has been to look into the implications caused by the shooting of WPC Yvonne Fletcher, outside the Libyan People's Bureau.

Some aspects of the miners' dispute, including violent picketing and the picketing needed to control it, have also been taken into account.

The Home Secretary, who reported to the Privy Council on the findings of the review, is believed to have concluded that although the law in most respects is adequate to deal with public disorders, the police should have more powers to control public demonstrations, although it is unlikely to result in the police having the right to ban them.

SUB-JUDICE

Speaker ruling

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MINERS' STRIKE

Dispute 'hit job prospects'

The length of the miners' strike has been "extremely damaging" to UK job prospects, the Employment Secretary, Mr Tom King, told the Commons yesterday.

But, he insisted at question time, the "best possible prospect for jobs" existed if the strike was settled.

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Sixth Scottish Labour MP plans to retire

By James Naughtie

Mr Jim Craigie, a Labour front bench spokesman on Scottish affairs, said yesterday that he would not contest his seat at the next general election. He became the sixth Scottish Labour MP to announce his retirement at the end of this Parliament.

Mr Craigie, aged 48, MP for Glasgow, Maryhill, said his decision was a personal one. He spoke of the frustration of a Parliament dominated by Conservatives, and of his desire to make his intentions known before his local party started its re-selection process and the Co-operative Party, which sponsors him, drew up its list for support.

His Scottish colleagues at Westminster and party officials in Glasgow were surprised at the announcement. Although there have been some bitter left-right arguments in the Maryhill party and a re-selection fight was expected it was thought likely that he would win.

He said last night: "Inevitably, questions are asked about re-selection, but that is in the nature of the system that the Party has imposed on itself. In a sense I have decided to make a re-selection of my own."

The Scottish group of Labour MPs, now numbering 42, will change dramatically at the next election. Five of Mr Craigie's colleagues have already announced that they are stepping down — Mr Harry Courling (Kirkcaldy); Mr Willie Hamilton (Central Fife); Mr Maurice Miller (East Kilbride); Mr Ian Campbell (Dumbarton); and Mr Gregor MacKenzie (Rutherglen). Mr Hugh Brown (Provan), Mr James White (Pollock) and Mr Hugh McCartney (Glasgow, East) are expected to follow.

Mr Craigie has never been associated with factions in the parliamentary party. He was Parliamentary Private Secretary to Lord Ross of Marnock when he was the Scottish Secretary of the Select Committee on Employment and a front bench spokesman on employment, and Scottish affairs. He was first elected in February, 1974.

Mr Donald Dewar, Labour's Scottish spokesman, said last night: "He will be missed in the next Parliament, but the decision is a very personal one and I respect his wish for a change from an MP's demanding life-style." He paid tribute

to Mr Craigie as an effective and loyal Labour MP.

At one stage the Maryhill party was causing concern to officials because of a possible serious challenge to Mr Craigie in the re-selection process, but in recent weeks Mr Craigie had been seen in the party hierarchy that he was likely to win.

It appears, however, that party frustrations have contributed to his decision although the principal main reason, he said, was his desire to make a change while he can still be useful to the chairman of his constituency party — he said: "While still in my forties I feel that there are other ways in which I can serve and at the same time do other things." He said it was only fair to make his intentions clear now rather than later in the life of this Parliament.

Nalco's loss

Membership of the National Officers' Association fell by 12,600 or 1.7 per cent to 700,000 in the year to last September, the union said. But in the last four years Nalco has made a net gain of 13,000, a rise of 3.7 per cent, compared with a 1.9 per cent fall in TUC-affiliated membership.

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The Battle for Supremacy: Marianne Dennison, in the third of our series, describes how she became the mistress and manager of a house

Hip, hippo, hooray



HOUSEWIVES CHOICE

HOUSEWIFE: "The mistress and manager of a house"

MY introduction to this rather roccoco-sounding lifestyle came as an acute culture shock that left me reeling for years. It was like being trapped on a runaway train: the stuff from which nightmares are made.

Fresh from the honeymoon and confronted with a large and rambling Victorian house, I whizzed around like a whirlwind, not so much cleaning as dementedly trying to figure out how to clean the monster. Not quite in the Hoover bracket, I had to make do with brush and pan, and the weight fell off me as I tried to make the nest gleaming and cosy for when the daddy bird came home.

He was sweet, patient, himself. As long as there was a nice hot meal on the table and plenty of fresh tea in the pot he was nothing short of angelic. He would beam benignly as I scrubbed the kitchen

floor and sometimes, when his cup was really full, he would pat me on the head and say, "Leave it rest yourself; and I would think, what a lucky woman I was.

When darkness fell we would romp happily under the freshly-laundered bedclothes and as he snored contentedly, my mind would busy itself with good thoughts and plans for the morrow. It was like a chant: make the breakfast, clean the kitchen, scrub the floor, clean the sitting room, run to shops, peel potatoes, wash the clothes, iron the shirts, and so on until I fell into a heavy but restless sleep.

When the night-time romping bore fruit, things slowed down for a while as I tried to do, hippo-like, around the house, now with the help of a Hoover and a mop. Indeed, when the ambulance arrived I was mopping the kitchen floor while a casserole simmered happily in the oven.

After a brief respite in hospital, I found myself in the Sixty. Interspersed among the other myriad items in my nightly chart were feed the baby, bath the baby, soak the nappies, change the baby, cook the dinner, feed the baby — and then more frolicking and more babies.

For the next few years it didn't matter whether the children take their first steps, hearing them say their first words, immersed in their chirpings and exuberance and toys was no longer like hell, but more like a kind of limbo. Admittedly, there were four days, when the kids became monsters and the boiler went out and the milkman was rude and the curtains fell down and the sink got blocked and the baby trod in dog-poo, but usually I managed to have the kids ready for bed and the dinner on the table by seven.

It was on one of the occasions when things went wrong that reality hit me in the eye. It had been a grotty day and dinner was late and less than mediocre to boot. The children were fighting on the carpet and the dog had chewed up the Oxford dictionary. Daddy was not pleased.

He was thoroughly put out. He let me know in no uncertain terms that things were not quite up to scratch; I hadn't been getting up to cook his breakfast, shirt collars had been looking grubby and the cooking was barely edible. Furthermore, night games were not what they were! I always seemed to be half asleep — lacklustre even. It wouldn't do, would it?

A common enemy

Scarlet with shame, I darted about the house clearing up the paraphernalia of family life. Mortified, I soaked in the bath to cleanse myself of my sins. Hadn't my mother always said I had bad blood? When I crawled into bed the spouse had his back turned and was whistling softly through his nose. I lay there listening, hearing the whistle change to a full-blown snore, and my blood began to simmer and then to boil.

"Like a bloody pig," I shouted, and immediately the baby began to wail in the next room. "Your son is crying," I said, shaking him and giving him the evil eye. "Get up and see to him." After much grunting and muttering he got up, and I waited into a sweet sleep without — for the first time in years — doing my chant.

Now — older and wiser and bearing the scars of a long and bloody battle — I am truly the mistress and manager of the house, albeit also accountant, nurse, plumber, mother,

sister, lover, whipping-boy, chef and guru. It's a job that requires versatility of a high order. And the rewards are great. I am in a position to orchestrate the whole show — decor, cuisine, timetable — the whole thing is in my hands. If dinner isn't ready at seven, what the hell. We housewives aren't all valium eaters and net curtain drinkers. The world is full of grinders and ground; weak women are weak women whatever their occupation; the strong survive, and they should never rubbish the weak.

So why should we skulk, often drinkless, in a corner at parties? Why should we feel intimidated by those women who seek their fulfillment outside the home? We should remember that, after all, we have a common enemy, he comes in many different guises.

He may be the office proper; he may be the pipe-puffing old academic on the appointments board; he may be the sympathetic colleague who pretends to be completely non-sexist; he may be the man we live with. But whatever hat he's wearing he wants to keep his place at the top and he wants to keep us in what he thinks is our place — he isn't really into power-sharing. He has run this world for a long time, trampling underfoot whoever stands in his way, and he's not about to change without a fight to the death.

So why all this bickering about who's got the better job? Psychologist, teacher, probation officer, secretary, housewife — we're all sisters under the skin and if we can't win on home ground we'll never win at all.

Tomorrow: Bryony Lavery on the name of the game.



From Diary of a Mad Housewife: Universal's film of a young couple who drift apart as his demands become too much for her

A public inquiry in Ireland into a case of infanticide, in which charges were eventually dropped, has put more than the wrongly accused on trial, says Kevin Toolis

The shame and the blame

JOANNE HAYES cuts an unlikely figure as murderer guilty of infanticide. But for six months in 1984 Joanne was falsely charged with such a crime and the current public inquiry into her case has created a sensation as well as raising disturbing evidence of police brutality and archaic social attitudes to single mothers in rural Ireland.

Joanne Hayes is 26 and her long ordeal began in 1982 after her affair with a married co-worker in the Tralee sports complex where she worked as a receptionist. As their affair progressed, the couple made love on the way home in his car. Joanne became pregnant on three separate occasions during the affair, and her lover's family about the liaison. Her first pregnancy ended in a miscarriage and the second in the birth of her daughter, Yvonne. But when she became pregnant again in October, 1983, with her affair breaking up, she decided to conceal the birth and hid her pregnancy from workmates and close family members. Eventually she gave birth to a stillborn child alone in a field near her house on April 12 of last year.

In a state of panic, she returned to her house partly to allow her sister Kathleen's suspicions and to change her bloodied nightdress. Four hours later she returned to the child. "I didn't know what to do. I put it into a paper bag and then into a plastic bag and hid it."

By sheer coincidence, the murdered body of a newly born infant was found on a beach 25 miles away, at Cahirciveen, on April 14. Joanne immediately came under suspicion and was questioned on May 1 by the police, the Gardai, who were convinced they had found the mother of the Cahirciveen baby. "They told me I was a murderer and I was quickly and shouting 'The Gard kept punching, banging on the table—he also slapped me in the face twice with his hand,'" claims Ms Hayes.

"I thought I was going to be sick and asked to go to the toilet. He put a newspaper on the floor and said if I wanted to be sick I could be sick there."

The case points to contradictions in Irish society about how people are forced to live their lives

After ten hours, Joanne, along with four other members of her family, agreed to sign a statement admitting giving birth to the child in Abbeystown home before stabbing it to death in a mad frenzy and battering the child with a bath brush. Her sister Kathleen and brother Ned also claim they were assaulted by police, with Kathleen, aged 30, being slapped about the head and told: "It is unknown how many you have killed and buried out there."

Subsequent blood tests, however, proved that both Joanne and her lover were blood group O and the Cahirciveen baby blood group A. The charges against her and her family were dropped.

It is not just Joanne Hayes who appears to have been on trial. The hypocrisy and contradictions in Irish society about how people are forced to live their lives are also on trial. Joanne Hayes had very little access or information about contraception. She went to great trouble to conceal the birth of her child but after that she was forced to reveal details of her personal life before a legal system that is clearly anti-woman.

Joanne Hayes's feminist supporters, and there have been many who sent flowers and cards, see her as a victim of the Catholic Church's grip on social morality and its political influence to block the provision of even the most basic contraceptive facilities. The battle to make even married couples in Ireland has already stalled in the face of outright opposition from the newly appointed arch-conservative Archbishop of Dublin, Kevin Macnamara. The future of desperate young women like Joanne Hayes seems bleak.

Dallas feels different even to the Americans



AMERICAN DIARY

Linda Blandford

Dallas, Texas
THERE is a saying in Dallas that if you don't like the weather, wait 15 minutes and it will change. In a day, cold winds blow down suddenly from Oklahoma, fog rolls in across Texas, a rainstorm comes up from the Gulf down south. And in the late afternoon, locals shiver in the balmy winter sunshine—113 degree summer days quite

forgotten—and complain about the chill. It is almost old-fashioned the way that Dallas talks incessantly of its weather—and brightening that its buildings so ignore it.

Those huge towers of glass with windows that never open, are familiar to us all from the opening shots of "Dallas"—so too is the sense of their newness, the unexpected clear air and skies around them. In the last six months alone, 43 new office buildings have broken ground, each more magnificent than the last—over 24 million square feet of yet more space awaiting its entrepreneurs. Cranes are everywhere, great swirls of Louis Quinze concrete and neo-Victorian girders grace the tallest jobs. Barker Hunt's sister, Caroline is putting up an arcade in town complete with ocean-going porpoises and Parisienne-style cloisters.

Out past the murky Trinity River, a computer mart is raising a modern-day replica of Crystal Palace 1851. How odd to find here the apogee of Empire without so much as a quirk of irony. But look too at the new tower in town built by

Trammell Crow, a good old Dallas boy and America's largest commercial builder.

This tower is on the corner next to the beautiful new limestone art museum and across from the lot on which will soon stand L.M. Peet's \$75 million concert hall (\$40 million until the price went up last week). Outside this new office block are two monuments to wooden pillars, hollow to those who knock upon them. Craftsmen have carefully painted them over as antiquated imitation bronze and etched deeply in gold the announcement that the tower behind is "The Campanile of the Dallas arts district."

Not all the tale

No wonder they scoff elsewhere in Texas. Dallas, it is said, stands for culture with a K. "Pretensions?" goes the joke about it. "Mo!" All manner of details stand out, most of them to do with the staggering concept of money. Tucked away in the European masters' gallery of the art museum, is some small but perfect Corot. "Lent by the Hockaday School", reads the discreet acknowledgement. It

is as if Roodean were to be found credited thus in the National Gallery.

One morning in 1981, the Hockaday School launched a \$15 million fund-raising drive. By that afternoon, \$10 million had been pledged, including a million each from five trustees—and a science building promised from Trammell Crow, Mrs Crow and daughter, Lucy, being generous themselves. Hockaday, nice little girls whose parents live along picturesque Turtle Creek, full of running spring water and serene gardens. They are the daughters of Highland Park and University Park in North Dallas where tear-down houses sell for \$650,000—so-called because you buy to tear down and build afresh.

But some girls are fourth-generation Hockadays now—there is tradition and order too. The Dallas Symphony was founded in 1900—when only 50,000 lived in town, there were 2,500 pianos. Somewhere, other forces have taken root: the Dallas Cowboys, those all-American football heroes, are not all the tale. But they are a very large

part. It is, of course, the single greatest gripe that Dallas has about its legendary name-sake—that the EWings spend so little energy or money on football. How unlikely that JR would not have his \$200,000 Golden Circle suite at Texas Stadium, home of the Dallas Cowboys since Clint Murchison, the team's owner, stole away from his old base in Dallas and did a deal with the nearby city of Irving. ("Who ever heard of a cowboy called Irving?" read the bumper stickers).

And to those who question the larger-than-life image of "Dallas", let there be read the cautionary tale of Clint Murchison Jr. The story goes that he acquired his franchise for \$50,000 (a bargain from a divorcee, it is said), his players for \$300,000 and when he took the team away from Dallas, there was bitterness indeed.

Last year, he sold the Dallas Cowboys for \$80 million; this year, his creditors talk of debts of \$110 million. Big D, gamblers and fighters some legends, at least, are true. Dallas, followed closely by Houston and nearby Fort Worth, has the highest

divorce rate in America. Its teenage suicide rate is two and a half times the national average. 10,000 move here every year; the Sun Belt, the golden crescent, it is for the young, rich, determined and powerful. It is not for the lost, the weak or handicapped.

Fifty per cent of those buses, silently and efficiently creeping along the empty streets, carrying cleaning ladies off to work, are supposed by law to be equipped with wheelchair lifts. Are they? Are any? Not at present. The clues are all there.

It is magic

The heart of Dallas is its gleaming office towers—no inner cities ghettos here, no lost and forgotten housing of the poor. They live way beyond the outskirts of town, a long journey from those greenwards around Turtle Creek. It is not by accident that food vendors were forbidden on the city streets until last summer, that even now food must be pre-wrapped. There is no street life that they wish to encourage, those city fathers in their long, air-conditioned cars and offices.

Dallas feels different even to Americans. Is it the hope, the energy, the belief that all these towers have a future? How little sense there is here of the past: no layers of history in these chunks of building. And how quickly America forgets, lost now in its thoughts of EWings. Just behind the tall block that JR has made his own, at the end of Main Street, the names Jolt, Dealey Plaza, the triple underpass, the assassination of Kennedy. It is as far off as Lincoln's death.

The Dallas of today belongs to Las Colinas, the 12,000 acre "city" that has risen in just a few years on the rolling green hills of north Irving and the Carpenters' family ranch. It is magic: hills, towers, a 125-acre urban lake, water taxis imported from Venice, people movers from Disneyland, elegant shopping, the Mandalay Hotel (Mandalay?).

Billions of dollars have built it; the impact is unimaginable, and yet familiar. The nagging sense persists: of course, it is America's Saudi Arabia. Television only begins to tell the fabulous tale of Dallas.

Out to produce her report

Msprint

for in the manner of a letter to the Times about child rape, seems to have been standing round the kitchen stove too much parroting The Elders. If beating isn't enough this booklet with its vision of an alternative may be the spur needed for anybody contemplating leaving a marriage because of violence. It is obtainable from The Women's Aid Federation, 116 Portland Street, Manchester 1 and costs 75p.

The problem for many an Asian girl is that her parents expect her to be like a girl born in Karachi or Bombay — "instead of an apple, they expect a mango." Breaking the silence is a collection of pieces by first, second and third generation Asian women living in Hackney. Each piece is translated into the mother tongue of the writer: be it Bengali, Gujarati, Punjabi or Hindi so that even the timid, non-English speaking Parveen, brought to Britain as the bride of her uncle's son, as

unhappy today as she was the day she travelled by bus to her husband's Stoke Newington bed-sit, might read of other Asian women's successes and miseries. The collection is available from Centre for Women's Studies, 136 Kingsland High St, London E8 for £2.45, or elsewhere for £2.80.

Community worker Penny Windsor, sponsored by her own baby Youth Enterprise Swansea, went knocking up the residents of Giro City one of Swansea's outlying council estates to find out what sort of lives the young women there were leading. As Penny Windsor herself admits "the estate has a long history of people studying it."

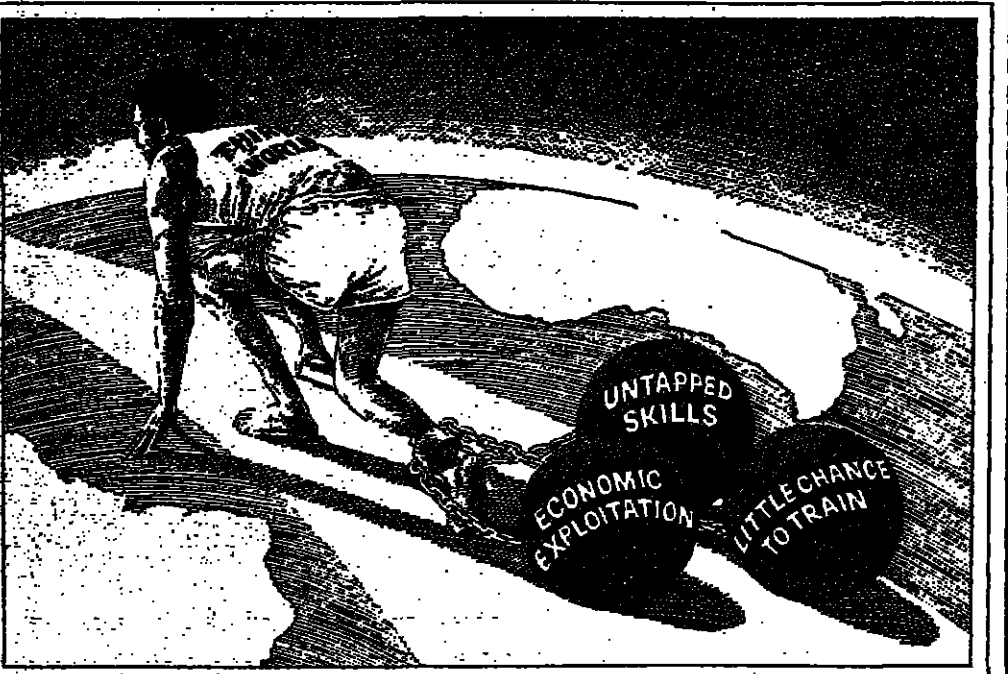
Back breathless from a work-study trip to Cuba, she is hurried into an "emotional limbo land" by the loneliness of her task and the unyielding grime of her subject. But, roping in her friends for jolly evenings, collating information by the fire, and bolstered by home-made wine, she bal-

At the end of the study, just in case we haven't yet got the right idea of Ms Windsor, she includes a few of her poems. Of Mary, Susan, Vani and the rest, on the "social", trapped by babies before they'd even finished "mitching" (truancy) school, we learn nothing very new. The most interesting part of the report touches upon the hostility between the snuffy area, Y Rhan Uchaf, and the problem area, Y Rhan Isaf — made manifest in the pub, the respectable Taffarn Uchaf and Taffarn Isaf — "full of junkies wasters and Giro people."

But perhaps, unoriginal as Penny Windsor's proposals for improvement may be, the simple plea for better public transport, improved amenities and the introduction of local employment needs constant reiteration in order to be heard. Out of Sight can be obtained by sending a large stamped addressed envelope (to the value of 28p) to 86, Terrace Road, Mount Pleasant, Swansea, South Wales.

The simple plea

Dorothy Stannard



No wonder the poor world only comes third.

Sending material relief to the poor and hungry is a crying necessity. No one can deny it. But it is a relief. Not a cure. For as long as the poor world remains ill-equipped to help itself it will always be dependent.

It will stay hopelessly handicapped. It will always come third. One charity, Voluntary Service Overseas, approaches the problem in a different (but complementary) way. We send people. Skilled people, professional people, useful people — from all walks of life.

Each volunteer spends two years with a third world community, freely sharing his or her skill, as well as the prevailing standard of living.

One result is only to be expected. The community receives a benefit which will endure for generations.

But there is another effect, less looked for, but invariably true. The teacher returns deeply, richly taught.

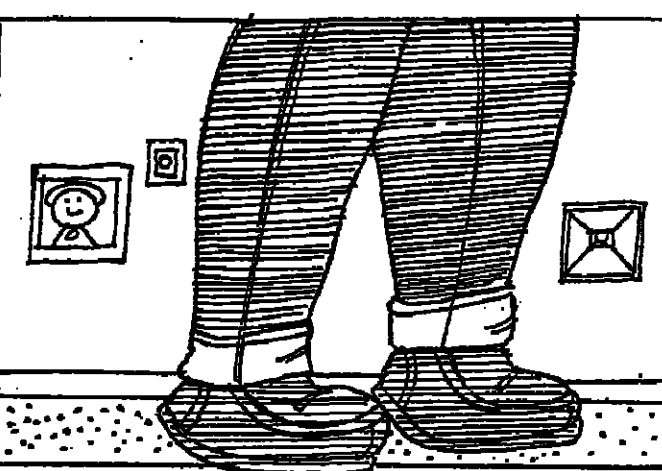
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BABY



By Michael Heath



Diplomacy pure and simple

Mr Terry Waite's diplomacy in Tripoli has been all the more impressive because he went there having nothing to concede. All diplomatic missions rely to some extent on the personal qualities of the envoy, but Mr Waite's depended entirely on them. He had to establish an understanding, which was not inherently probable to begin with, between an Anglican archbishop without powers of state and a regime which, though evidently not a straightforward dictatorship, invests august authority in its Islamic head of State. A plenipotentiary has, by definition, the power to give things in exchange for what he wants. Mr Waite had no such power, and no influence on the timing of court proceedings or the scale of public utterances. All he could offer was a goodwill which has possibly become devalued in the smarter chancelleries of Europe but still counts for something in other parts of the world — goodwill, a Bible inscribed in Arabic, and a promise of the Church of England's sympathetic ear to the anxieties of Libyans in Britain. The promise, one may depend on it, will be fulfilled.

If the Foreign Office has encouraged Mr Waite's enterprise it has managed wholly to conceal the fact from the public at large. The main duty of the Foreign Office, after all, is to look after British interests abroad, and especially when British subjects are improperly harassed. It must thus be disheartening to find the work more successfully undertaken by a freelance. The last comparable occasion was the mission to Damascus by the Rev. Jesse Jackson to secure the release, where conventional diplomacy had failed, of an American airman. President Reagan and the State Department would much have preferred Mr Jackson not to go but when he returned, as the President said, "You can't quarrel with success."

This time, however, the closer parallel has been with the American hostages in Tehran. In both cases it was clear that the

people were indeed hostages — Colonel Gaddafi has used the word and so have the people's congresses in Libya which voted for their release. But in both cases, too, the media have taken their ample toll of personal hardship. The captivity of the British in Libya did not begin as a media event. It began as a reprisal for the expulsion of the Libyan People's Bureau, but the potential for presentation was not lost either on the Libyan authorities or on the television crews here. News, as publicly accepted, can increasingly be defined as an event of which BBC and ITV have managed to get film, and thus the round-the-clock activities of Mr Waite in Tripoli, the court hearings, the press conferences, and the shots of the Colonel's bunker have been a replay in miniature, for British viewers, of the long-running interviews with Bani Sadr on the US breakfast television networks of 1980. Mr Waite has survived this ordeal and carried out his mission at the same time. That is a large achievement.

A covert tax on water

The Government is up to its neck in a fresh backbench revolt over plans to force Thames Water to raise prices by 10 per cent instead of the 3 per cent the utility was planning. This, as we have argued, from the start, is nothing less than a tax on water. Worse, it is a tax which, in a major constitutional departure, the Government was hoping to push through without proper parliamentary approval. Fortunately, the order, in the form of a negative resolution was "prayed against" in the House and so MPs will (tomorrow) be able to debate the merits of the most flamboyant of the Government's attempts to raise tax by surrogate means.

The problem arises because the Treasury (in the Autumn Statement) laid down that Thames repay its debts to the Treasury in 1985-6 by £45 million more than was planned. To achieve this the water authority, which was recently exhorted to keep its prices below the rate of inflation, will now have to raise them by twice the inflation rate and cancel £12 million of planned hitech investment (including automatic monitoring of reservoir levels). The

repayments get higher each year so that by 1987-8 the authority will not only be in the ludicrous position, compared with private sector firms, of having repaid all its debt, but will be a net lender. It will have been turned into a bank lending money to HMG.

The Government says that all this is necessary because TW should be earning a high "real" (after allowing for inflation) return so as to meet the cost of replacing its assets at today's prices. But this is so much pious puff. No big company in the private sector operates such rigid current cost accounting which has the effect (not pleasing to the stock markets) of depressing declared profits. Moreover Thames itself, which has its nose nearer to the ground in these matters, says it doesn't need to replace that many assets thanks to the benevolent inheritance of Mrs Thatcher's beloved Victorians, who built the sewers to last a long time. In any case why, if the Government is so keen on replacement cost accounting, did it smartly withdraw it from British Telecom when it approached the privatisation slipway?

MPs of all parties should this week vote against the legislation for the following reasons.

First, it is hypocritical of the Government to be "capping" rate increases with one hand while forcing water charges — which are based on rateable value for most consumers — up with the other.

Second, the action goes right against the principles, sanctioned by this and other Governments, of allowing each public enterprise to be run as commercially (to quote TW's own objectives) as a "major well-run business" — with management's right to manage enshrined. You can't do that with Nigel Lawson doubling as marketing and financial director. It is all a far, far cry from the supposed mood music of the pit strike, where doughty managers are "left alone" to fight the good fight of cutting British industries basic costs.

Third, the proposed action is a shabby abuse of monopoly power which, if contemplated by a private sector company, would trigger a prompt investigation by the Monopolies Commission. Short of taxing the air we breathe, the taxation of the monopoly provider of drinking water is about as insensitive an act as you could get.

Finally, it is surely time the Commons took a stand on the whole question of

backdoor or extra parliamentary taxation. It is happening on an increasing scale with gas, electricity, water and the post, not to mention the reduction in the Treasury's contribution to the national insurance fund. The highly dubious practise of raising money from extra-parliamentary taxation in order to be seen reducing the burden of taxation which Parliament approves should be shown up for the political sham it is. If present plans go through Thames Water (which supplies a quarter of the population) will in the financial year 1986/87 be raising what amounts to a 15 per cent VAT on water. In later years it will rise to over 20 per cent. If this is what Mr Lawson wants, then the apostle of fairness in taxation should stand up and say so and not shelter behind the swirling skirts of the Thames Water Authority.

Bubbling in southern seas

In his first six months of office Mr David Lange, New Zealand's Labour Prime Minister, has shown himself to be a moderate and pragmatic leader with a commitment to consensus politics. As is almost always the case with incoming democratic socialist governments, his administration has soon shown itself to be distinctly less radical than the party from which it is drawn, particularly in tackling the country's profound economic crisis. There is no need to revise this general impression in the light of New Zealand's persistent refusal to allow an American warship to use its ports, which has provoked a crisis in the Anzus pact, the military alliance of Australia, New Zealand and the United States. Despite strong pressure from both alliance partners, Mr Lange will not allow a ship with nuclear propulsion or nuclear arms to enter New Zealand's territorial waters. In consequence the naval exercise due to start later this month has been called off and an almighty row looms over the Anzus annual meeting in July, even though Mr Lange does not wish to withdraw from the pact.

Like the other nuclear powers, the US refuses to say whether a specific ship carries nuclear weapons. At the same time it insists that use of New Zealand ports is

vital to the credibility, indeed the viability, of Anzus. Coolly considered, however, Mr Lange's widely supported desire to keep New Zealand, and preferably the whole of the South Pacific, nuclear-free seems rather radical nor even mildly eccentric. It looks rather more rational than the nuclear policy of his Australian confrere, Mr Bob Hawke, who leaked the cancellation of the naval exercise during a visit to Brussels. He too came to power early in 1983 with a pledge to keep nuclear weapons out of Australia. Soon he stopped uranium exports to France in protest against continuing nuclear tests in the Pacific and prevented the repair of HMS Invincible in any Australian dockyard because the captain refused to say whether she carried nuclear arms. The latter policy was briskly reversed under American pressure, and the Hawke government has since decided to go on mining uranium, to tolerate American early-warning bases (which must make Australia a potential target), to help the Americans test the MX missile — and to try to persuade Mr Lange to surrender his principles.

The whole affair is reminiscent of the last New Zealand Labour government's dispatch of a frigate into the exclusion zone around the French nuclear-test site of Mururoa more than ten years ago, which at least forced the French to hold subsequent tests underground. Defiance of the United States, an ally across the Pacific of more than 30 years' standing is in a different dimension altogether and might, depending on Washington, have far-reaching consequences. What America does about New Zealand's determination not to become a target for nuclear attack will be of intense interest to Nato countries like the Netherlands and Belgium with their doubts about cruise missiles and ought therefore to merit careful reflection. Washington has managed so far to live with the fact that a much more important Pacific ally has always pursued a policy similar to Mr Lange's — Japan. If Mr Lange's stand helps to prevent the spread of the nuclear cancer to a remote, beautiful and strategically less important part of the world, congratulations seem to be in order. When he came to office Mr Lange consciously took Bob Hawke as a model for his conciliatory approach. He is his own man now.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

How small alternatives pave the way for radical change

Sir—I think Suzy Croft and Peter Beresford (Letters, February 2) are right to question "the new, supposedly alternative economy" of the small-is-beautiful business. And yes, as an initiator of the "lighter project," which Walter Schwartz thinks could be a "breakthrough," I'm still committed.

In inner-city areas such as Battersea and Birkenhead, as well as much as on green field sites, people have to recover their nerve, to regain confidence in their own ability to get something, anything, done; on the spot where everyone can see and take credit for it.

To get results, there has to be a working alliance with those professionals in local government and the specialist agencies which are sick of seeing their work undermined by central government and destroyed by vandals. They know best how to get hold of wasted local resources — buildings, land, materials, equipment — which could be stepping-stones to something bigger.

Small-scale initiatives at ground level are significant when they become the means for forging a working relationship between interests which have been mutually suspicious; and to ally local experience and initiative with the expert knowledge of the professionals to create tools with a cutting edge. Tony Gibson, Telford, Shropshire.

Sir—Suzy Croft and Peter Beresford are not alone in realising that the "Phoenix Economy" must challenge "the massive political and economic forces that crush our lives and hopes."

Many greens forget that working-class people and the poorer sections of the community suffer most from the destructive consequences of industrialism and economic growth; and there is the real danger that in too sudden a transition to post-industrial self reliance, they will be the losers if distribution of wealth and power is not tackled.

Since 1973 the Socialist Environment and Resources Association has campaigned for socialist solutions to ecological problems, not least in the area of goods, services, and work. If the ecological crisis does escalate — as seems likely — the rich and powerful will not leave the budding phoenix economy alone, nor will they destroy it. The signs are they will adapt to it and to a large degree control it — unless they are challenged.

Many socialists are not staunch defenders of industrialism and economic growth but, true to the tradition of Ruskin and Morris, realise that red and green are more than compatible —

they need and enhance each other. Sera has already made considerable in-roads into the labour movement with numerous trade union and constituency Labour Party affiliates, as well as Labour MPs and MEPs as members.

We are developing the links between the new economics and the actions of local socialist councils which are standing up to the Tories and helping the poorest sections of the community. There is a place in the future for those who want to be left, green and forward looking. — Yours sincerely, Roland Clarke, (Editor, New Ground), London W1.

Sir—Walter Schwarz (Guardian, January 30) contradicts himself in describing "international terrorist organisations emerging in West Germany, France and Belgium as part of the peace movement."

Throughout Europe, genuine peace movements work consistently — as the name suggests — peacefully and nonviolently towards their aims of peace and nuclear disarmament. This principle applies to all our actions, demonstrations, blockades, obstructions alike.

Whatever they may call themselves, if the organisations described are contemplating the murder of any individuals, key or otherwise, they are clearly no part of any peace movement. Moreover, there is a qualitative difference between combating "Nato imperialism" and working for peace and disarmament.

The word peace has, once again, been subverted and misused.

Members of the European and US press have for some time suggested that genuine peace movements, growing desperate after the cruise and Pershing deployments in the autumn of 1983 — might be tempted to acts of violence.

Of course they have not done so, but have reaffirmed and exhibited instead their principles of active nonviolence, learned from the campaigns of Gandhi and Martin Luther King, at Greenham Common, Upper Heyford, and other peace camps; and at actions in London, in Europe, and the US.

However we have had violence done to us: at Comiso, in West Germany, and at Greenham Common.

If the acts of terrorism described by Walter Schwarz have been concerted, we must assume that the governments of the US and other Nato countries have much more to gain from discrediting the peace movement than the Soviet Union particularly in the light of Dutch and Belgian resistance to the cruise programme. — Wex Beresford, London N4.

had Jack Lake not been made unemployed by those Thatcherite policies enthusiastically supported by the erring tabloids, he would probably not have had the time to work it all out. — Yours faithfully, Frank Rogers, Upton by Chester.

A double negative that's no help at all to Africa

Sir—According to your report of February 2, Britain's response to the World Bank call for a \$1 billion fund for Africa was to offer to spend \$75 million over five years out of the existing aid programme—£15 million a year to tackle the biggest human problem facing the world today!

Since UK aid to Africa has been running at around £240 million a year—though declining since 1980—this offer simply earmarks about 6 per cent of the existing aid for Africa as a contribution to this international effort. No wonder the Bank rejected it.

The hard fact is that the Government's total response to the desperate plight of Africa has merely been to refrain from making further cuts in an aid budget slashed by 17 per cent since 1978. No doubt they would defend this by referring to the need to protect the sacred PSBR and to offer the chance of tax cuts in March. How

many of us want our tax cuts to be paid for by the deaths of African children—I am, Sir, Yours, (Sir) Peter Preston, 5 Greville Park Avenue, Ashted, Surrey.

Sir—I support completely your condemnation (Leader, January 31) of the Government's refusal to contribute to the World Bank fund for sub-Saharan Africa. This issue has exposed more clearly than ever before the Government's lack of moral values and its failure to appreciate the strength of public opinion in such matters.

I am deeply ashamed that Britain will be judged by the world community on the performance of a bunch of mean and uncaring hypocrites. Yours, John Black, 54 Rustic Park House, London, SE5.

Sir—The letter (February 4) from Mr R. W. Palmer, Jones, of the Institute of Agricultural Economics at

Oxford, attacking the World Bank's Joint Program of Action for sub-Saharan Africa, provides splendid ammunition to those wishing to scorn Oxford dons for their vote on Mrs Thatcher's honorary degree. As a case of fiddling while Rome burns, it takes some beating.

The economic disaster in Africa has reached dramatic proportions. Moreover, all observers agree that the tragedy is a reflection of deep-seated problems, as well as of immediate problems of drought and war.

The World Bank's report of 1984 attempted to analyse the nature of this longer-term crisis and to present a programme of action to the international community.

Anyone who has read the report—Palmer-Jones appears not to have done so—refers only to the earlier 1981 report to make his pedantic point—would find that both donors (including the World Bank) and African governments are castigated for their errors.

But the emphasis is not so much on pointing fingers of blame as on directing attention to the issues which each of those involved must address if a potentially continuing disaster is to be reversed. This joint programme is based on what is seen as a growing consensus which has developed on these long-term issues.

Faced with this major human and developmental challenge of the 1980s, what intellectual guidance does Mr Palmer-Jones offer to your readers, to Africa, and to the world community? The programme is rejected as part of a continuing vendetta against the World Bank, based on a particularly complex and controversial Nigerian example. But where are his positive proposals? Did the Nigerian projects fail to achieve their targets because they were poorly designed or because of the whole anti-agricultural framework of pricing and budgetary policies in Nigeria as in so much of Africa?

Is it wrong, as he implies, for Africa to follow India's success in favour policy based in part on ensuring that the areas of high potential are not held back in the interests of an egalitarianism, which simply leads to the redistribution of poverty rather than of growth? He rejects the Bank's emphasis on improved incentives and services to smallholders; on refocusing public expenditure and donor assistance from new and grandiose projects towards rehabilitation and maintenance; on providing basic health, education, agricultural research, and other basic services with long term pay-offs?

With respect, Sir, I suggest that your columns would have been better employed in enabling those in universities and elsewhere to proffer reflective advice and intellectual leadership to your readers on this African disaster. — Yours sincerely, Stanley Preece, Oxford.

Marinated in mammon

Sir—It is staggering that a radical and independent-minded newspaper such as the Guardian, known for its espousal of the environmental movement, should publish the view that the principal consideration in town planning should be the demands of big business.

Yet this is precisely the logic of Martin Pawley's article (Arts Guardian, January 28) on the City of London. "Manifested in conservationist thinking" is Mr Pawley's description of the City of London local plan. One might fairly reply that your correspondent is marinated in the thinking of conservative City financial institutions and the City Movement. But the simple truth is that there is no danger of the City becoming a "museum."

An examination of the offending document, much of which is couched in the customarily vague language of the planners, reveals that there are to be no further designations of conservation areas (no redevelopment is ruled out in those which already exist). There is a commitment to new office development elsewhere, though the need to protect the skyline is now (begrudgingly) recognised.

Road-widening and overhead walkways (railing from the 1960s, a period presumably admired by Mr Pawley) are prominent in the plan. "Antiquarian's charter?" The plan is far from that—rather it is an intelligent attempt to steer a course between unrestricted development and the campaign to preserve what is left of the City as an historic townscape and a pleasant place to work. Inevitably, there is fierce criticism of both sides.

The real aim, of course, is the reference to Mr Peter Palumbo, whose cherished but deeply unpopular scheme for Mansion House Square is now being considered by the Secretary of State for the Environment. Mr Palumbo has now had his say, and his view of the City bears a remarkable resemblance to that of Mr Pawley. Is there a concerted campaign to overturn the City plan, obtain consent for Mies's glass mausoleum and secure a "development" charter for the future? — Yours sincerely, Ken Powell, Save Britain's Heritage, London SW 11.

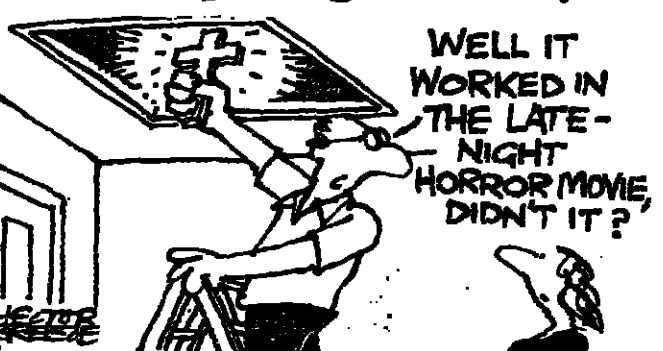
Ring the bell before repairing the belfry

Sir—Your Leader (February 4) misinterprets the protection afforded to bats—perhaps through reading the misinformed writings of a well-known bat-hater in another newspaper.

In your kitchen a bat and a natterjack toad have precisely the same protection, and you are encouraged under the Wildlife and Countryside Act to help them out of the heat as soon and gently—as possible. The Act does not prevent the exclusion of bats from a house where they are disliked or (rarely) are causing a problem.

It does, however, insist that if any activity that may affect bats or their roosts is intended, the Nature Conservancy Council be given the opportunity to offer advice on how and when such activity should be effected to cause minimum disturbance to both bats and humans. It also requires notification if timber treatment is to be carried out.

Many chemicals used for



such treatment are lethal to bats, and probably not good for humans either. They are banned for such purposes in many other countries. A selection of less toxic chemicals is available, and its use should be encouraged even where bats are absent.

The North Yorkshire firm fined for destroying a roost by spraying a poisonous chemical, admitted that it was well aware of the law, of the presence of a well-established bat colony, and of the consequences of its action. I don't find the

firm's actions anything to celebrate.

Far from remaining silent, conservationists have alerted widely the plight of bats, the meaning and operation of the law, and the reasons for it. Information is freely available from the Nature Conservancy Council, from the Fauna and Flora Preservation Society, or from the local bat groups. — Yours faithfully, Tony Hulson, Fauna and Flora Preservation Society, London N1.

It will not be hard "to get the troops to repeat the effort this year," because the NUT's sanctions are designed to ease a teacher's work load.

The notion of regular professional assessment of teachers' performance is a red herring. What the Government really wants is for teachers to be tied contractually to cover absent colleagues and to supervise school meals. For an extra 3 per cent! Pay talks under such circumstances would be interesting in 1988.

I can't really think of any convincing reason why the Government should show concern about the standard of education received by the masses. I mean, does it really want an educated electorate? — Yours faithfully, John Berry, Hull.

Not so much battering, more a brick wall

Sir—In accusing the National Union of Teachers of using "a battering-ram in place of reasoned argument" in the teachers' pay negotiations Philip Merridale, leader of the employers' side, reveals a disturbingly poor memory (Guardian, January 31).

During the 1984 salary negotiations it was his regular insults about the status and value of teachers that made them feel battered, largely united them, and created the long and bitter campaign. Having maintained at meeting after meeting that the employers could pay no more than 3 per cent because that was the cash limit for local authority budgets and that arbitration was therefore pointless, Cllr Merridale submitted to pressure for arbitration and promptly changed his mind about why teachers should remain at their low salaries compared with other groups. He then argued that teachers lacked the commitment to

their work to justify their claim.

These postures were neither reasoned nor rational. Anyone who has followed the progress of the teachers' salary structure working party will be aware that the management side maintained an inflexible attitude on such issues as midday supervision, cover for absence, and assessment linked to payment of salary increments; it was for this reason that the NUT saw no hope of progress and precipitated collapse of the talks.

Philip Merridale now has an impressive track record as one who does not respond to reasoned argument. If he wishes for anything other than disruption of education, he must give clear signals to the teachers that he is willing to moderate the management demands. — Yours, etc, Will Messinger, 3 Kitebrook Cottages, Horton in Marston, Gloucestershire.

Miscellany at large

Sir—Roy Hattersley seems to have met heavy weather in his quest for the "Country and Country" which I was startled to see his statement that it "does not appear in the London Library Index." Well, no, any more than does Moby Dick, unless you look under Melville. Like many libraries, we largely reserve title entries in our catalogue for anonymous works.

Town and Country is by Frances Trollope (three volumes, 1848) and appears in our catalogue under her name, as indeed it does, in Mr Hattersley, in the British Museum General Catalogue of Printed Books.

There are ways of finding the author of a book where only the title is remembered. We usually manage to do so. — Yours faithfully, Douglas Matthews, The London Library, London, SW1.

Sir—No doubt Dr Runcie's endeavours to secure the release of the four hostages from Libya have been noticed by those who so loudly denounce the habit of the bishops' intervention in politics. No doubt they are waiting until the four gentlemen are back in England before they put down motions of censure in the Commons. — Yours faithfully, Adrian Briggs, Oxford.

Sir—An advertisement in your issue of February 1 announces the Lord's Taverners "Henry Cooper Boxing Evening" in aid of handicapped children. The "stag night, black tie do" at the Park Lane Hilton will cost £25 a head and promises to be "uproarious."

Surely even in these barbaric times there must be better ways to relieve the moneyed, macho social climbers in our society of their excess cash than by giving them the opportunity to indulge their sadistic fantasies by watching young people beat hell out of each other. — Yours faithfully, John Vaughan, Blaydon Burn, Tyne and Wear.

Sir—Nicholas Pritchard asks (Letters, January 24) about the use of the word "punk" to describe customers, clients, and guests. I hear the word used by people in advertising to describe those who buy the products they promote. Since a punk is more traditionally the sucker who backs the wrong horses, the choice of word is indicative of the contempt that the advertising industry really has for its public, a contempt reflected in the emphasis it puts on "packaging" to disguise shoddy goods and poor service. — Yours faithfully, Peter Burns, London SE24.

A COUNTRY DIARY

OXFORDSHIRE: Following my usual practice, I gathered all my ripened tassel plants from odd corners of the garden last September and stuck them in a spare patch of ground to form a dense, hedge-like clump about 12 feet long and two across. Since some odd plants were inserted, the total number of seed-heads available for exploitation by goldfinches must be about 500. Throughout the five months that the seeds have been on offer, goldfinches have been practically daily visitors, beginning with parties of up to 14 in autumn, but now

reduced to three or four regulars. Hardy overwintering birds which do not emigrate to Iberian winter-quarters like most of their kind. The fact that seed still remains in the prickly heads raises the question of this plant's means of seed-dispersal. It seems obvious that wind is not the answer, because even the numerous gales of this winter have failed to stir the seed-heads. Many of the seed-heads, during the mild wet weather earlier this winter, revealed how much seed still remained by the latter germinating in situ, completely coating the dead heads with fresh green.

Watching the goldfinches at work, one sees loosened seed flying out in all directions and, although some of this may then be wind-borne for the visitors' consumption, the greater part of this waste falls to the ground within about a yard of its source. It is from these crumbs from the goldfinches' table that my seedlings will eventually be transplanted. I've fetched a sack of straw, my conclusion is that the main stratagem for seed dispersal evolved by the species is W. D. Campbell

Good 'job' of code-cracking

Sir—Jack Lake, the unemployed painter, is to be congratulated for uncovering the newspaper bingo racket (Guardian, February 1). I shall strongly urge that he is awarded at least a knighthood on the first day that a decent government is elected.

How ironic, though, that

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Further information, job description and application form available from the District Personnel Officer, Epping Forest District Council, 323 High Street, Epping, Essex CM16 4BZ. (Tel: 0378 77344, Ext. 201).

Closing date for the receipt by the District Personnel Officer of applications is 28th February, 1985.

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Job description and further details can be obtained by contacting the Chief Executive on 0632 328520, ext 5001, or by post to the Civic Centre, Barras Bridge, Newcastle upon Tyne, NE99 2BH. Closing date for receipt of applications is Monday, 25th February, 1985.

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Following the appointment of our Deputy Town Clerk to the post of Town Clerk we are seeking his replacement.

The job of Deputy Town Clerk in a city like Manchester is demanding. Not only is the Council responsible for providing local services to a population of nearly half-a-million people in what is a predominantly inner city area experiencing high unemployment and multiple deprivation, it is also responsible for the maintenance of Manchester as a Regional Centre of vital social and economic significance to the North-West.

In response to these challenges, the Council is committed to finding new ways of providing services that meet the City's needs. It is working towards the development of area based administration which can more easily respond to Manchester people; it is establishing policies to promote equality of opportunity both in employment and the way its services are provided. The City Council instituted the Nuclear Free Zone movement in the UK and is actively concerned with the maintenance of vigorous and accountable Local Government.

Against this exciting and vigorous background the Deputy Town Clerk will be responsible to the Town Clerk for the management of a section of the Department as well as the internal co-ordination of the work of the Department as a whole, and in particular the Department's response to policy issues.

The post has Chief Officer status and as a Member of the Management Team the Deputy Town Clerk will be expected to play a major part in the development and administration of Council services. She or he will need to be a creative, resilient, untiring and fluent Local Government Officer of exceptional ability.

Candidates will need to have good relevant qualifications, not necessarily in Law; they will need to show that they have had extensive relevant management and executive experience.

Further particulars of the post may be obtained from: The Director of Personnel, 4th Floor, Cumberland House, Crown Square, Manchester M2 3BB. Tel 061-234 7501.

Closing date: 25th February, 1985.

MANCHESTER City Council

Manchester City Council is an equal opportunity employer, and we positively welcome applications from women and men regardless of their ethnic origin, disability, age, sexuality or responsibility for children or dependents.

Newham is a multi-racial Borough with well over a quarter of its population from a variety of ethnic minority groups. The Council is developing and providing services and facilities which are geared to meet the specific needs of particular ethnic minority groups. In line with this positive approach in promoting equality of opportunity for ethnic minorities, the London Borough of Newham has decided to appoint officers at a senior level as specialist advisers in each department.

DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING AND ARCHITECTURE

Policy Adviser (Ethnic Minorities)

Grade P.O. (3-6) £11,916-£12,900 p.a. inc.

The Policy Adviser will be expected to ensure the implementation of the Council's policies of eliminating racial disadvantage in the delivery of the Department's services and employment of staff; advise on the implications of equal opportunity policies for management and staffing; and ensure staff training in race awareness.

The Adviser will be required also to assist existing specialist staff working closely with ethnic minority groups, with advice on ways to increase the Department's effectiveness in understanding and meeting the planning and development needs of such groups; and to share in liaison work with groups and individuals as necessary. Applicants should have a good understanding of the customs, problems and needs of ethnic minority communities in inner city areas and be able to relate this to planning and development. A good understanding of the forces that underlie racism, prejudice and disadvantage is necessary. Tact and the ability to relate to people of all ethnic and social backgrounds is essential and experience working in ethnic minority organisations, race relations, and / or local government will be an advantage.

For an application form and further details please write to the Chief Executive's Department, Management Services Division, Town Hall, East Ham, London E6 2RP, or telephone 01-471 0619 (24 hour answering service). Please quote Ref. ASC306. Closing date: 22nd February 1985.

LONDON BOROUGH OF NEWHAM

An Equal Opportunity Employer

SHEFFIELD AGAINST RATE CAPPING FOR THE RIGHT REASONS

DIRECTOR

Building, Highways and Construction Salary up to £28,347

Due to retirement the City Council is seeking a first class manager with a proven track record in the effective management of a large organisation. Whilst experience of the building and construction industry is important, the Council is more interested in the ability to manage change effectively and to build and lead a team of managers from diverse functional backgrounds. The post will be offered to a candidate who can clearly meet the challenge of running a cost-effective organisation and contribute to the corporate policies of a Local Authority which is committed to maximising services to the community, and promoting good industrial relations.

The Sheffield Works Department employs nearly 4,000 employees with an annual turnover approaching £50m.

The new Director will not be afraid to delegate in a systematic manner and will have an ability to problem-solve in an imaginative and practical way. He/she will also hold an appropriate professional qualification.

APPLICATION FORMS AND FURTHER DETAILS CAN BE OBTAINED BY RINGING 0742-734078 OR WRITING TO THE CHIEF PERSONNEL OFFICER, TOWN HALL, SHEFFIELD S1 2HH. CLOSING DATE 28th FEBRUARY.

City of Sheffield

An Equal Opportunity Employer

Cheshire PRINCIPAL PLANNING OFFICER £11,703-£13,725 CHESTER

The Planning Department is responsible for forecasting levels and structure of population, workforce and employment. We are seeking a statistician to take the lead role in this work and to provide statistical advice and standards to other members of the department. Data holdings are considerable and cover topics from land use through to the various Census.

Candidates should be qualified in either statistics, operational research or allied disciplines and have a minimum of two years' experience in this field. Ability to use computers is essential and further relevant training will be given.

Application forms and further details available from: The Personnel Section, Cheshire County Council, Planning Department, Commerce House, Hunter Street, Chester, Cheshire CH1 1QG. Closing date: 16th February, 1985.

All applicants will be considered on the basis of suitability for the post, regardless of sex, race, marital status, religion or disability.

SOCIAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT

Cleveland Social Services is committed to the development of services to the people of Cleveland and to assist in achieving this goal we require a (DS 034)

Monitoring and Development Officer

£11,562 - £12,645 (Plus essential User Car Allowance)

This is a challenging and demanding post and the successful applicant will have a major input in the following areas of work:

- provision of a comprehensive management information service
- use of research resources for assessing the need for future services
- development of the computerised information systems

In addition the post holder will have a supervisory responsibility over the Department's Officers responsible for Publicity, Development and Statistics. Ideally applicants should have extensive experience in computer and their applications, research techniques and knowledge of the function of and statutory services provided by a Social Services Department. Applicants should be educated to degree level.

Applications forms, job description and, if appropriate, details of our relocation package are available from the County Director of Social Services, P.O. Box 91, Marston House, Borough Road, Middlesbrough, Cleveland TS4 2EH. Requests can also be made by telephone, using our 24 hour answering service on Middlesbrough 246885.

Closing date: 22nd February, 1985.

Consider the challenge - Consider your future - Consider Cleveland.

We are an equal opportunities employer

County of Cleveland

FARMING AND THE COUNTRYSIDE

THE FARMING AND COUNTRYSIDE TRUST LIMITED

FARM CONSERVATION ADVISERS

Gwynedd, Humberstone and Sefton

The Trust intends to appoint Advisers to work with the Farming and Wildlife Advisory Groups in each of the above counties.

The aim of the posts is to provide advice on conservation to farmers and to co-ordinate the resources available for this purpose in each county. The posts are grant aided by the Countryside Commission.

Applicants, who must be at least 25 years old, should have a sound knowledge of and practical involvement in both farming and countryside conservation and relevant qualifications. Applicants for the Gwynedd post should additionally be Welsh speaking.

Salary in range

£6840-£8400

Send SAE for details and how to apply to the Director, Farming and Wildlife Trust, The Lodge, Sandy, Beds SG19 2DL.

THE BIOCHEMICAL SOCIETY

The Society, whose object is to advance the science of Biochemistry, has some 6,000 members in the UK and overseas. It holds regular scientific meetings in the UK, edits and publishes four scientific journals and operates a distribution service at Colchester for its own publications and those of other bodies. The Society invites applications for two new posts established at its offices in London.

RESEARCH AND INFORMATION OFFICER

The Research and Information Officer will develop the society's role in the professional and educational field. As secretary of the Professional and Educational Committee, he or she will work closely with its Chairman and the Executive Secretary to provide background information to members and also to brief members of the press, government departments and members of the public on a wide range of aspects affecting members of the society and the science of Biochemistry as a whole. He or she will also be responsible for co-ordination of the society's regional group activities.

The successful candidate is likely to have a degree in Biochemistry or a related life science. Experience in a similar position would be useful as would the use of computers in data retrieval.

Salary: Up to £12,000.

ASSISTANT TO THE MEETINGS OFFICER

(Non-scientific post)

A major part of the society's work is the organisation of scientific meetings and conferences within the UK. The Meetings Office is also responsible for the publication of the society's bulletin and the administration of its group structure. The successful candidate must be capable of withstanding the inevitable pressure created by the need to meet deadlines. After a period of training he or she will be expected to take over a section of the Meetings Office and thereafter to work with minimum supervision. Administrative and organising ability are more important than formal qualifications.

Familiarity with the use of micro computers as an aid to administration would be an advantage but is not essential.

Salary: Up to £10,000.

Further details may be obtained from Glyn D. Jones, Executive Secretary, The Biochemical Society, 7 Warwick Court, High Holborn, London WC1R 5DP, to whom applications should be made with full career details by 4th March, 1985.

EURO ACTION-ACORD

An International Development Agency working in Africa, requires the following staff for its Head Office in London:

A PUBLIC INFORMATION AND FUNDING COORDINATOR

to assist the Exec. Director to establish overall p.l. and fundraising strategy. To acquire and maintain extensive knowledge of EAA programmes; to prepare p.l. material both to support fundraising activities and for public relations and information; to facilitate programme fundraising activities within EAA by outlining financial needs to potential donors and negotiating specific contributions and to identify information requirements of member organisations and other donor agencies. Excellent verbal and written communication skills in both French and English; University degree or equivalent work experience in political science, business administration or economics; several years experience in public information and/or fundraising with development agencies.

Professional salary AAE.

Two year contract with extension possibilities.

A MATURE EXPERIENCED BILINGUAL (FRENCH/ENG.)

SECRETARY/PA (90/50)

for the Administration, Finance and Personnel Dept. of EAA HQ. Ability to structure and prioritise own workload; good verbal/communication skills; flexibility and discretion; competent with figures; word processing/computer experience desirable.

Salary: Up to £8,500, AAE

Please write to

Justine Church,

EAA, Francis House,

Francis St., LONDON SW1

with full CV and covering letter.

Second Base, Nottingham Project Worker

Second Base is a project which aims to meet the housing and support needs of single homeless people, especially offenders. It provides second stage housing as a stepping stone to general independent accommodation, and currently manages 40 places with a further nine planned to open shortly.

A Project Worker is required to make up a staff team of six. This is a challenging job and although no formal qualifications are necessary, preference will be given to applicants having experience in housing, or residential work, or work with offenders, especially young offenders. This is a non-residential post, though some unsocial hours working is required. Starting salary £6,264 (award pending).

Closing date: 27th February. Interview: week commencing 4th March.

Write for details, enclosing large self-addressed envelope, to: Tim Bell, Second Base, 83 Derby Road, Nottingham NG1 5BB.

NACRO

BRENT VOLUNTARY SERVICE COUNCIL

BVSC is the co-ordinating body for voluntary groups in the London Borough of Brent. We are currently reviewing our programme to ensure that it meets the needs of Brent's multi-racial community more effectively. This is therefore a unique opportunity to help re-shape BVSC's policies for the future.

We now wish to appoint the following:

GENERAL SECRETARY

Starting salary: £11,493

to lead its team of full- and part-time staff

The person appointed must possess management and communication skills, knowledge of statutory and voluntary agencies and experience of working with community groups from many backgrounds. Previous experience with black and Asian groups in inner cities would be an advantage. Willingness to work unsocial hours and to travel around the Borough is also important.

For details apply to BVSC, 74 Tubbs Road, London NW10 4RE. Closing date: 27th February, 1985.

This is a re-advertisement. Previous applicants need not re-apply.

BVSC is an equal opportunities employer.

FAIRTHORNE MANOR

A Residential Centre situated in 94 acres of parkland and on the Hamble river in Hampshire, is inviting applications from suitably qualified and experienced people wishing to manage a very successful Development Training Department.

The person appointed will be a Christian conversant with current trends in Residential Development Training relating to young people, be able to manage a team of eight well-motivated and capable tutors and establish and monitor the departmental requirements for staffing, quality of work, marketing and new initiative. SALARY YMCA Grade 3.

Please write or phone: YMCA National Centre, Fairthorne Manor, Curridge, Southampton SO3 5GE. Telephone Botley (04892) 5228.

PUBLIC APPOINTMENTS

Key Role in Social Work Management

PRINCIPAL SOCIAL WORKER (£10,242-£11,052)
BATTLE HOSPITAL, READING
If you have substantial experience at a senior level and are looking for an opportunity to combine management with client contact, this post will interest you.
We are looking for someone to take responsibility for the social work service at this 375-bed general hospital and the overall direction of services to both a nearby community hospital and social worker attachment to a local health centre.
The person appointed will lead a fully qualified and enthusiastic team of Senior Social Workers and Social Workers and will be responsible for ensuring high standards of supervision, workload management, organising student placements and developing further the good links which exist between the Department and key health service personnel on site.
The hospital provides acute services to geriatric, medical, surgical, rheumatology and physically handicapped patients and has been identified for a number of major developments, the first of which, a twenty-five-bed acute geriatric assessment unit, is already under way. Further developments in the treatment, care and support of an increasingly elderly population will follow shortly.
Good operational links with the Department's geographical divisions and local voluntary organisations have been established and the Principal Social Worker will be expected to play a key role in further developing these ties.
The post calls for someone with management and leadership skills and an ability to develop and sustain the Department's objectives to the maximum benefit of its clients.
Further in-service training will be encouraged.
A car user allowance is payable and removal/floating expenses where applicable.
Application forms and further information from Mr D. M. Gay, Assistant Divisional Director, SSO, Shire Hall, Shirefield Park, Reading RG2 9XJ, Tel 0734 675444 ext 4870. Closing date: 25th February 1985.
*National pay award under negotiation.

Court and Welfare Worker
Scale 3 - £5,640-£6,135
Central Club is a dynamic organisation aiming to meet the Social, Educational and Recreational needs of the black community. A Court/Welfare Worker is sought to develop an information and support service for those likely to be involved with the Courts, including preventative and after care. The post is full-time and involves daily attendance at Magistrates' Courts and on occasion at Crown Court. Candidates will be expected to have previous experience of work with the black community. The post is Urban Aid funded with just under four years to run.
Enquiries to Loretta Lawrence-Plett, Central Reading Youth Provision, Tel Reading 54221.
Application forms and job description from Director of Education (VCS), Shire Hall, Shirefield Park, Reading RG2 9XJ (see above). Closing date: 28th February 1985.
An Equal Opportunity Employer.

Royal County of Berkshire

Senior Internal Auditor
£8,779-£10,473 p.a. inclusive
Due to the promotion of the previous holder, this post is now vacant and offers an opportunity to gain valuable experience for someone wishing to develop their career in accountancy/audit.
The post is part of our progressive Audit Team, responsible for the surveillance of the Authority's financial systems.
Ideally you will have internal audit experience and/or will have made demonstrable progress towards gaining an accountancy qualification. You must be enthusiastic, motivated and able to work on your own initiative. Car owner / driver essential.
Wandsworth Health Authority, with an annual budget of £37m, and undergoing major changes including a large scale site development at St. George's Hospital and many improvements in Health Care provision, is an exciting place to work. We are based in South West London with easy access to the Surrey suburbs by road and rail; to Central London by Tube; and can offer pleasant conditions, excellent sports facilities and a staff restaurant.
Please phone Di Dangerfield for further details on 01-672 1255, Ext. 4921.
Application forms and job descriptions from Andrew Courtney, District Personnel Department, Grosvenor Wing, St. George's Hospital, Blackshaw Road, London, SW17 1JL, Tel: 01-672 1255, Ext. 4931.
Closing date - 25th February 1985.

COMMUNITY ENTERPRISE DEVELOPMENT AGENCY
HAMMERSMITH AND FULHAM DEVELOPMENT WORKER
A second worker is needed to develop services and support for co-operatives and community enterprises. We are looking for someone with sound business skills, a commitment to co-operative working and experience in setting up either co-operatives, self help groups or small businesses.
Hammersmith and Fulham is a multi-racial borough and applicants will be shown an awareness of black communities and their problems as they will need to work closely with these communities as well as women only groups. Salary £10,712 p.a. (inclusive of ILW) Job sharing proposals will be considered. Further information and details of how to apply from:
CEDA,
16 Askew Crescent,
London W12 9DP,
Telephone 01-740 7271.
Closing date for applications is 22nd February 1985.
Funded by the GLC and the London Borough of Hammersmith and Fulham.

SOUTH WEST LONDON PROBATION SERVICE
(London Boroughs of Kingston Upon Thames, Richmond Upon Thames, Merton, Sutton)
ASSISTANT WARDEN
Kew Hall Hostel, 96 North Road,
Kew Gardens, Richmond, Surrey
This non-residential post becomes available on 1st April 1985, and applications are invited from men and women who have initiative, resilience and are able to take responsibility. We would particularly like to hear from people with previous residential experience.
The Hostel caters for men aged 17+ who are on bail to Magistrates and Crown Courts. Most of the work is short-term, dealing with the crises of residence.
The successful applicant will join an experienced team of Warden, Deputy Warden, two Assistant Wardens and a Community Service Volunteer. This is a challenging but enjoyable post which offers excellent experience to those who wish to work closely with offenders.
Salary will be in accordance with the Scheme of Conditions of Service for Residential and Allied Staffs and will be in the range £5,264 to £7,005 p.a. plus £227 p.a. London Weighting Allowance (38 hour week). Sleeping-in allowance of £5.60 per night is payable.
For further information about the post and the work of the Hostel contact: Kathleen Rogers, Senior Probation Officer / Warden, Tel: 01-876 6303/4.
Application forms and job descriptions from the Chief Probation Officer, South West London Probation Service, 23 High Street, Kingston Upon Thames, Surrey KT1 1LG.
Closing date 22nd February 1985.

SOUTHWARK COUNCIL FOR VOLUNTARY SERVICE
needs
ADMINISTRATOR
Lots of office experience, good organiser. Good written English and typing essential, and a keen interest in community activity in a multi-racial inner-London Borough.
29 hours a week. Scale 5, £5,705 p.a. (inc. London Weighting).
Closing date 14th February.
Telephone: 01-732 4731.
SCVS aims to be an Equal Opportunities Employer.

HOUSING DEPARTMENT PRINCIPAL OFFICER: HOUSING BENEFIT IMPLEMENTATION GROUP (HOUSING MANAGEMENT) £10,404-£11,562

A Principal Officer is required to manage a small team of officers with responsibility for devising and implementing Housing Benefit policies from a Housing Management perspective and to ensure that these policies are understood by Housing Staff.
You will need a wide knowledge of the Housing Benefits Scheme, Housing Management, and in addition computerised rent accounting systems.
You must also be committed to the implementation of sensitive, intelligent and imaginative policies designed to ensure that tenants receive a comprehensive Housing Benefit service.
The City Council is committed to decentralising this service and this Officer will be actively involved in the Housing Department's response.

CLERICAL ASSISTANT £5,238-£5,769

We are looking for someone to assist our recently appointed Housing-in-Multiple Occupation Co-ordinator in a range of interesting and challenging duties.
Houses in Multiple Occupation (HMO) are houses, largely in the private sector, occupied by more than one household and include hostels, bed and breakfast establishments and bedsit houses. The HMO Co-ordinator is spearheading a campaign to improve the physical standards in such properties and to protect the rights of tenants. The duties of the Clerical Assistant will include the initial handling of enquiries, provision of information, filing and general clerical duties.
An interest in the problems associated with this area of housing is essential.

Application forms from the Director of Housing, Personnel and Training Section, Room 2021, Level 2, Manchester, Tel: 061-234 4725. Closing date: 22nd February 1985.

CITY TREASURER'S DEPARTMENT GROUP LEADER AUDIT £11,259-£13,326

Applications are invited from qualified Accountants, preferably IPFA.
The post is one of three equally graded posts in the Audit Section and the duties comprise mainly of the internal audit of the Education and Recreation Services Departments. The post is both challenging and interesting and offers valuable experience for a qualified Accountant.
A five-day, 35-hours week with flexible working hours is in operation. Casual car user allowance is payable.
Application form and job description from the Staff Officer, City Treasurer's Department, P.O. Box 314, Town Hall, Manchester M60 2RU (Tel: 061-234 3417). Closing date: 21st February 1985.

SOCIAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT HOSPITAL SOCIAL WORK SERVICE PRINCIPAL SOCIAL WORKER BOOTH HALL CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL Salary: £11,259-£12,243

A qualified and experienced Social Worker is required to manage a team of seven staff based at the 450-bed paediatric hospital with several specialist treatment units. The postholder carries a small caseload and needs to be knowledgeable about NAI assessments and procedures and to have both appropriate and relevant social work experience.
Informal enquiries to Miss Jean Roberts, District Co-ordinator of Social Work, North Health District, Tel: 061-795 4567, Ext. 2800.
Application forms from Personnel Section, Social Services Department, P.O. Box 536, Town Hall Extension, Manchester M60 2AF Tel: 061-234 3887/3886. Closing date: 22nd February 1985.
The City Council operates a Union Membership agreement under which a new employee is required to become a member of a recognised Union.

MANCHESTER City Council

Manchester City Council is an Equal Opportunity Employer, and we positively welcome applications from women and men, regardless of their race, ethnic or national origin, disability, age, sexuality, or responsibilities for dependants.

UNITED KINGDOM HOUSING TRUST HEAD OF FINANCE ARLINGTON HOUSE Salary £11,500-£13,000

Arlington House, a challenging housing project for the single homeless in Camden Town, is seeking to appoint a qualified accountant to join the senior management team.
The person appointed will be responsible for preparing and controlling the revenue budget of approximately £2 million, liaising with the D of E, GLC, London Borough of Camden and the Home Office (our funding bodies), maintaining accounting records and systems and leading a small finance team.
Experience of Housing Associations, Hostel finance and voluntary sector funding would be an advantage.
Applications to:
Claire Roberts,
Personnel Officer
UKHT, Poland House
167 Oxford Street
London W1R 1TA
Tel: 01-434 2211
UKHT welcomes all applications regardless of race, age, sex, disability or sexual orientation.
The closing date for this advertisement is 22nd February 1985.

Secretary to Chief Executive and Clerk of the Council £6,555 - £8,262 per annum

I am looking for an intelligent, lively, and well qualified person with a sense of humour for me and the Assistant Chief Executive. You will need to have an interest in current affairs, including local government, as well as first class secretarial skills, and have been educated to 'A' level or degree standard. In this most senior secretarial appointment with Warwickshire's largest employer, you will come into contact daily with elected members, Chief Officers and other professional staff; the workload is varied ranging from helping to organise royal visits to typing very sensitive documents as well as arranging our diaries.
Working conditions are excellent with the latest new technology for you to use; holidays are generous; a staff restaurant is provided; further details can be obtained by telephoning Mrs. J. Harris (on Warwick 493431 ext 2181) who will send you an application form.
The closing date is 25th February and I shall be holding interviews on the 7th March.
J. W. HAYES,
Chief Executive and
Clerk of the Council.
Warwickshire
AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER

Secretary to Chief Executive and Clerk of the Council

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AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER

LAMBETH HOUSING

The Housing Directorate within Lambeth has embarked on an ambitious and challenging programme of decentralisation as part of its intention to bring its housing services to the community. The next step in this process has been to ensure that central functions can respond to the needs of the community, neighbourhoods and therefore initiatives and reorganisations are taking place within the District Liaison Office and Special Housing Services.

The District Liaison Office consists of Central Allocations and the Central Management Team. Although the allocation functions have been decentralised to the five district offices a central allocation section has been established to monitor the district's allocation performance and handle all aspects of housing mobility. The District Liaison Office is the Directorate's centre for developing the Council's decentralisation strategy in terms of systems control, policy development and evaluation on housing management issues and a general "think tank".

Special Housing Services recognise the need to maintain and develop the concept of care within the community in order to meet the increasing needs of groups such as the homeless, the mentally ill, the handicapped and the elderly in areas of assessment, temporary placement and the supervision of sheltered accommodation for the elderly.

If you wish to actively contribute to these initiatives and are committed to this Council's policies on Equal Opportunities and appreciate the demands for housing within an inner city multi-racial community we are looking for the following:
Individuals who wish to work "part-time" hours can apply under the Council's Job Sharing Scheme.

PRINCIPAL MANAGEMENT OFFICER (DISTRICT LIAISON OFFICE) (Ref H16) Salary: £11,952-£12,894 (inclusive)

This post requires someone capable of combining organisational flair and effective communication skills in order to initiate projects and development work aimed at assisting the Housing Directorate in maintaining an efficient service to their tenants. You will play a key role in co-ordinating new policies and drafting procedures for the neighbourhood district offices and ensuring that the functions at the districts and the NMOs are effectively monitored.

It is essential that you have the ability and motivation to build and develop an effective working relationship with local and national organisations such as Tenants' Associations and the Manual Trades Unions within Housing. Experience of handling IR issues is essential with specific reference to the manual trades unions.

SENIOR REHOUSING OFFICER (DISTRICT LIAISON OFFICE) (Ref H17) Salary £10,251-£11,730 (inclusive)

This new post requires someone to organise, motivate and manage a team of 5 officers who are directly involved in the establishment of the new London Mobility Scheme to take effect in this April. You will be responsible for the effective operation and evaluation of this scheme. You will also be able to demonstrate your organisational flair by being actively involved in the establishment of a Mutual Exchange Bureau within Lambeth for Council tenants. Being self motivated you will contribute to the overall running of the section and assist in project work for the computerised allocations system.

REHOUSING OFFICER (DISTRICT LIAISON OFFICE) (Ref H18) Salary £8,382-£9,903 (inclusive)

The team of Rehousing Officers monitor and operate a number of mobility schemes within the local authorities. This requires you to be involved in processing of applications and the allocation of property. As a good communicator you will use your skills in liaising with other local authorities and housing associations. We are looking for two officers who can demonstrate a sound understanding of the issues surrounding housing allocation, in particular how the Council's Race Relations and Equal Opportunities policies will effect the work, to join our team. Sympathetic and a flexible approach is essential to deal effectively with tenants and an appreciation of the need to adhere to tight deadlines and the ability to absorb and utilise complex data.
Within Special Housing Services we have the following vacancies:

PRINCIPAL OFFICER TEMPORARY ACCOMMODATION (SPECIAL HOUSING SERVICES) (Ref H19, Salary £11,952-£12,894 (inclusive)

In order to meet the needs of the homeless the Directorate utilises its resources of Reception Centres, short-term properties and necessary bed and breakfast accommodation. As the above officer you will have a co-ordinating role to ensure that the Council achieves the maximum benefit from these available resources. To achieve this you will have a supervisory and co-ordinating role over the two teams who are responsible for the administrative and managerial control of all temporary accommodation.
Applicants must demonstrate their ability to contribute effectively to the management team of SHS, as well as proven administrative, managerial and communicative skills. You should also have experience or an in depth appreciation of the environment in which you would be working as well as a sensitive approach to dealing with the homeless and the vulnerable.

SENIOR ADMINISTRATION OFFICER (SPECIAL HOUSING SERVICES) (Ref H20) Salary £11,136-£11,730 (inclusive)

This post is responsible for organising and supervising the section dealing with the admission to temporary accommodation. You will ensure that the appropriate documentation is prepared to enable persons to pay the appropriate charges. In addition you will co-ordinate the eviction from temporary accommodation in accordance with the Council's allocation procedure. You must have the ability to prepare reports/statistics, carry out development work and determine priorities within the section.
Applicants must demonstrate supervisory skills and have an appreciation of administering financial systems.
Benefits for most posts advertised include flexible working hours, subsidised staff canteen, sickness and superannuation scheme, generous annual leave.
As part of Lambeth's Equal Opportunities Policy, applications are welcome from people regardless of race, creed, nationality, disability, age, sex, sexual orientation or responsibility for children or dependants.

LAMBETH

AGE CONCERN HAMPSHIRE
To manage this developing organisation, plan services, secure funds, support local groups, supervise staff. Requirements: administrative skills, innovative flair, graduate calibre, experience caring and voluntary work.
Four weeks' holiday, car allowance, pension scheme. Details from Hampshire Council of Community Service, Beaconfield House, Andover Road, Winchester, Hants. Closing date: 25th February, 1985.

CHIEF OFFICER £9,060-£10,539

CO-ORDINATOR FOR THE A.U.O.P.
The Asian Unemployment Outreach Project is based in East London and is mainly concerned with Welfare Rights and some training initiatives. We need an energetic Co-ordinator to help run and develop this busy project. Relevant experience in Welfare Rights and working with ethnic minorities is a positive asset as is the ability to speak Bengali (Sylhet dialect). Duties will include case-work, liaison with voluntary and statutory organisations and development initiatives.
Salary £8,600. 35 hours a week including some evening and weekend work.
Details and application forms from:
The Administrator, AUOP, c/o The Monifore Centre, Hanbury Street, London E1. Tel. 01-327 8455.
Closing date for completed applications: Friday, 1st March.

NEIGHBOURHOOD HOUSING OFFICERS (Ref H21)

Salary £8,382-£10,851 (Inclusive, full-time rate); pro rata rate paid for 15-19 hours

Are you looking for interesting and challenging part-time work? We need a number of part-time Neighbourhood Housing Officers to be based at the network of NHO that are currently opening throughout the Borough.

The Housing Directorate has to tackle a number of complex housing problems as well as those other issues facing an inner city multi-racial community, which is why we are committed to the decentralisation of our Housing Management Services, designed to take our staff closer to the needs of each local community.

Each Housing Officer manages a number of Council properties. This involves handling rent arrears cases, neighbour disputes, property maintenance and monitoring void properties. It is also essential that good relationships are established with tenants, tenants' associations and voluntary and statutory agencies.

You must be prepared to work in a highly pressurised environment where excellent administrative and communication skills are indispensable. A sympathetic and flexible approach is required to deal effectively with tenants in sensitive and sometimes stressful situations.

Ideally, you should have relevant experience in housing management but more important is the ability to display sound understanding of the demands and problems of housing within an inner city multi-racial community. These part-time vacancies (15-19 hours) are covered by it recently introduced job share scheme.

Opportunities also exist for full-time work.

Information Officer so1 (Ref H23). Salary £10,251-£10,851 (inclusive)

The Policy and Information Section currently requires an Information Officer to act as the Housing Directorate's information and consultation officer and liaise with appropriate outside agencies, organisations, tenants and other interested groups.

The work will primarily involve preparing relevant materials on housing issues to be used in the Council's consultation and information giving exercises. This will also necessitate arranging and attending meetings, some of which will take place outside normal office hours.

Whilst there are existing channels through which the Council consults its community on aspects of housing provision, one of the main objectives of this post will be to make the consultative process more extensive and improve its effectiveness.

As this is a new post, we are looking for someone with an imaginative approach, coupled with sound analytical ability and the ability to initiate and prioritise work.

In addition you should display a keen awareness of relevant housing issues, and an understanding of working in an inner city multi-racial area. Sound organisational skills, coupled with a proven ability to produce effective written and visual material, are also essential requirements of the post. Individuals can apply for Job Sharing.

For application form and job description please contact the Personnel Officer, Directorate of Housing and Property Services, Hambrook House, Porden Road, London SW2 (Tel 01-274 7722 ext 2053). Closing date: 22nd February, 1985.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S OFFICE

ANTI-RACIST PROGRAMME CO-ORDINATOR (Ref M20)

Salary £11,952-£13,329 pa incl (under review). Grade PO2/3

Lambeth is an inner city borough with a multi-racial population containing a high proportion of black communities.

This post has been created to give greater impetus to the development and implementation of the Council's anti-racism programme and initiatives as part of the Council's comprehensive equal opportunity policy.

The Council is engaged in policies of providing relevant efficient services to all sections of the deprived community characterised by race, sex, age, disabilities and class.

The Anti-Racist Programme Co-ordinator will be responsible for the development, organisation, management, promotion and monitoring of all aspects of the programme. Anti-racism is aimed at challenging all aspects of racism in the Borough. This will involve liaison with local voluntary programmes. Applicants must have experience of the issues involved in such programmes, a detailed knowledge of race relations and anti-racist strategies and experience of the implementation of an equal opportunities policy preferably within a local authority or similar context.

This is a very challenging new post within a local authority with a firm commitment to ending all forms of discrimination and will require applicants with drive, enthusiasm and total commitment.

Individuals can apply for job sharing.

Closing date: 22nd February, 1985.

WOMEN'S RIGHTS INFORMATION WORKER (Ref M70)

Weekly pay between £213 and £224 inclusive

Lambeth Women's Rights unit is looking for a temporary worker to compile an information pack about the resources available to women covering the activities of local group employment and training, childcare, education, health, housing, leisure and recreation. The Worker will also set system for updating.

A knowledge of women's issues, the ability to obtain and compile information and present it in written form, are essential. Local knowledge of women's issues and facilities would be very advantageous.

This is a temporary job which will last one month with the possibility of an extension for a short period. Therefore the ability to grasp the requirements of the job in a very short period is essential.

Individuals can apply for job sharing.

For further information contact the Women's Unit on extension 2203.

Application forms obtainable from the Personnel Officer, Directorate of Management Services, London Borough of Lambeth, 18 Brixton Hill, SW2. Tel 01-274 7722 ext 3020. Closing date: 18th February, 1985.

YOU CAN FIND IT IN THE GUARDIAN

If you want to work in the Public Services... you'll find the widest range of jobs in The Guardian every Wednesday. Whatever you do, from Architect to Youth Worker, you could find the next rung of the ladder any Wednesday in The Guardian.

NATIONAL CONSUMER COUNCIL

The National Consumer Council is funded by the Department of Trade and Industry, to watch over consumers interests and to speak up for the consumer to government, nationalised industries, independent industry and commerce, public or private services.

Two vacancies have arisen at the London based offices of this national watchdog organisation, for people with administrative skills, able to write fluently, used to working efficiently under pressure without supervision and able to communicate easily with all sorts of people.

The first post is a

DEVELOPMENT OFFICER

working to the Development Division who will mainly be responsible for organising the three day residential Consumer Congress. This is an annual forum for hundreds of delegates from scores of organisations and the Development Officer will service the elected Congress Committee. The Development Officer will be actively involved in other development and liaison work with consumer representatives. Experience in organising meetings and conferences would be an advantage.

The second post is an

EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT

working to the senior group of chairman, Vice-Chairman, Director and Deputy Director. Responsibilities will include background research and drafting for reports and speeches, arranging meetings, handling correspondence, and liaison with a wide variety of organisations and individuals from industry, government and the consumer world in general. This person will also act as International Secretary for the NCC making contact with consumer organisations worldwide and keeping NCC informed of international developments.

Terms and conditions of employment including pension are similar to those of the civil service and the salary scale is Executive Officer: £7,317 to £9,792 including London Weighting.

People interested should telephone Sharon Hancock for further information and application form on 01-222 9501. Completed forms must be returned to the NCC, 18 Queen Anne's Gate, London SW1 by Friday, 22 February, 1985.

DIRECTOR OF WORKS

£25,890 - £28,278 (subject to review)

Following the retirement of the present Director, applications are invited for the most senior and important position in Direct Works management in this country.

The Department is the largest comprehensive Direct Labour Organisation in England, employing just under 3,400 operatives and staff, with a turnover of £47.5 million in the last financial year.

Its activities include the construction of council dwellings and other capital projects, the maintenance of the Council's building stock including over 100,000 houses and flats, the modernisation of council houses and the provision of extensive workshops and engineering services including agency work.

The City Council is fully committed to the survival of the Department, the continuity of employment and the development of departmental services at local level.

Wide experience in a large building organisation and managerial and technical skills of a high order are required as well as commitment to work with trade unions and tenants' representatives. The successful candidate will be a member of the Chief Officers' Management Team.

Further particulars of the post may be obtained from: The Director of Personnel, 4th Floor, Cumberland House, Crown Square, Manchester M60 3BB. Telephone: 061-234 7501.

Closing date for receipt of applications: 22nd February, 1985.

MANCHESTER City Council

Manchester City Council is an equal opportunity employer, and we positively welcome applications from women and men regardless of their ethnic origin, disability, age, sexuality or responsibility for children or dependents.

Senior Social Worker

(Mental Health)

Western District, SE8

£11,151-£11,961 Ref. SS274(GD)

This new post has been created under joint financing to provide a social work service to a local out-patient clinic and improve the practice of Social Services District Staff in the field of mental health. Clinic duties will include attendance one half a day a week providing advice to patients and staff with the possibility of becoming involved in groupwork and improving liaison with other agencies, primarily medical and social work. It is expected the postholder would carry a small caseload.

District responsibilities will include developmental work, identifying need, liaising with staff and seeking to improve practice, an interest in developing skills in mental health work is therefore essential. The postholder should have sufficient experience and confidence to offer advice and consultation on cases and on general practice and policy issues in the field of mental health.

The postholder will be supported by attachment to an area team, and will be supervised by a Principal Officer. The post serves a multi-racial population and experience of working in such a setting would be of considerable value.

For informal discussion, ring Bob Scrivens, Area Team Co-ordinator or Marion Farmer, Team Leader on 01-692 5166.

Deputy Home Care Organiser

(Temporary)

Eastern District Office, SE12

£9,063-£9,621 Ref. SS52

The Home Care Service in Lewisham provides a comprehensive range of care which includes home help, meals on wheels, family care and other related services designed to assist clients of all ages to remain in their own home for as long as it is possible or desirable.

This vacancy has arisen due to a temporary movement of staff pending departmental reorganisation and will be for approximately twelve months.

Applications are invited from persons with two years home care or related experience who can demonstrate some staff support and management potential and with a commitment to this type of care. There is a need to be enthusiastic, patient, tolerant and have a sense of humour.

The successful applicant will be required to assist the District Organiser in the day-to-day control and supervision of the office and services provided as well as being responsible for organising and monitoring the work of approximately 45 home care workers providing support to about 350 clients.

For informal discussion please contact: Mr. D. Latham or Mrs. A. Mallett after obtaining the application forms and job description on 01-698 6121. Application form, returnable by 22nd February, 1985, and detailed job description from Chief Personnel Officer, Town Hall, Catford, London SE8 4RU or telephone 01-850 7666 (24-hour Ansafone service) quoting appropriate reference and job title.

LONDON BOROUGH OF LEWISHAM

Our jobs are open equally to all races and both sexes.

LEWISHAM SERVICES 01-850 7666

CHIEF EXECUTIVES DEPARTMENT

Principal Solicitor

£15,570-£16,548 p.a. (incl. LWA) (pay award pending)

We are looking for a Solicitor or Barrister with a strong commitment to local government and experienced in the conduct on all kinds of litigation, with an emphasis on administrative law.

If you have less than five years' experience since qualifying, you probably won't be able to handle the job. You must be able to advise — often at the drop of a hat — on a range of complex issues concerned with the Council's powers to achieve its innovative policy objectives. In addition, you must be able to manage a group of staff dealing with litigation work (other than Housing cases) and the whole range of Social Services work. The pressure is high, but so is the satisfaction.

For an informal discussion please phone Mr D. W. Riddle, Deputy Chief Executive, on 01-278 4444 Ext 2004.

Application form (and further details) from, and to return to: Controller of Personnel Services, Town Hall, Euston Road, London NW1 2RU. Tel: 01-278 4444 Ext 2757, quoting reference no 1A/267/G. Closing date: 25th February 1985.

SOCIAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT

Social Worker

£9,510-£11,964 p.a. inc

We are looking for a qualified, but not necessarily experienced, social worker to join a patch team covering the St. John's Ward in Kentish Town — a racially and socially mixed inner city area. Members of the team, which includes a neighbourhood worker, carry a generic caseload — this includes some patch work. We are hoping to develop a more community-based approach and would expect you to be interested in this.

The Team is also committed to develop an anti-racist and anti-sexist policy and practice.

Camden is totally committed to its Equal Opportunities policies. In service provision and employment, Members of black and other ethnic minorities are under-represented in this work area in relation to Camden's population profile, and applications from members of these groups will be particularly welcome to redress this imbalance.

Informal inquiries to Maggie Slaughter, Team Leader or Ann Rose, Area Group Head, on 01-267 4211.

Application form from and to be returned to: Director of Social Services, Willing House, 356/364 Gray's Inn Road, WC1X 8BH, or telephone 01-337 5621 (Ansafone) quoting ref no 1087/G. Closing date: 25th February 1985.

Camden Services

equal opportunity employer

Applicants are considered on the basis of their suitability for the post, with equal opportunities for women, black/ethnic minorities, lesbians and gay men and people with disabilities, and regardless of marital status, age, creed, religion and unrelated criminal conviction. All posts are open for job-sharing.

SHEFFIELD AGAINST RATE CAPPING FOR THE RIGHT REASONS.

COMPUTER SERVICES DIVISION

HOUSING DEPARTMENT LIAISON AND SYSTEMS OFFICER

PO2g £13,326-£14,358

Sheffield, at the very heart of Britain, is England's fourth largest city with a population of more than half-a-million. Although a major industrial centre, it is surrounded by some of the most beautiful countryside in the world with the delightful Derbyshire Dales to the West and Sherwood Forest to the South. In addition to such marvellous natural recreational facilities, the Local Authority provides a whole host of sporting, recreational and educational facilities of the highest standard. Sheffield City Council employs over 30,000 people and has an annual turnover exceeding £400,000,000.

The Computer Services Division, with a young progressive management and a staff of 150, operates an I.C.L. Superdual 2585 with CAPS-6P, and an I.C.L. 2872. The Council is committed to the development of information technology in all its forms as a major part of improving services within the City. Contact with I.C.L. 2800 equipment would be advantageous, although appropriate training can be arranged.

Will be based in the Housing Department, providing a permanent and expert link between the department and the Computer Services Division. He/she will assist Departmental Management to review their information related problems, develop overall strategies and advise on the implementation of the most appropriate and cost-effective solutions.

PLEASE WRITE OR TELEPHONE FOR AN APPLICATION FORM, QUOTING POST REF. TS19, TO THE PERSONNEL OFFICER, CITY TREASURY TOWN HALL, SHEFFIELD S1 1UL. TEL: 0742 734305. CLOSING DATE 15TH MARCH.

LAND AND PLANNING

PRINCIPAL PLANNING OFFICER

PO2h £14,358-£15,387

The Sheffield City Council fully supports transportation policies that give a high priority to public transport, pedestrians and cyclists and the local environment. Within the Planning Division this is the responsibility of a small transportation section. The section's duties include advising the City Council on transportation matters and working with the City Council and Passenger Transport Executive on transport related issues.

Due to retirement, the Section Head's post becomes vacant in March, 1985. This is a third tier post within the Planning Division and the successful candidate will have: (i) drive and enthusiasm and the capacity to motivate staff, (ii) the ability to be able to communicate on planning and transportation matters, (iii) extensive knowledge and proven track record in the planning and transportation field, (iv) a planning/engineering/transportation qualification.

APPLICATION FORMS WITH FURTHER DETAILS FROM THE PERSONNEL SECTION, DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND PLANNING, TOWN HALL, SHEFFIELD S1 2HH. TEL: 0742 734517. CLOSING DATE: 22ND FEBRUARY.

City of Sheffield

An Equal Opportunity Employer



Health Care Administration

Short Term Appointment

Salary £16,000 - £20,000 p.a. pro rata

Our client, a major London Health Authority, is seeking to appoint a Senior Administrator on a short-term basis for a period of between 6 months to a year.

Your exact responsibilities will be determined by your skills and experience, but it is essential that you have extensive working knowledge of one or more of the following areas: planning, management services and unit management.

Whilst it is desirable this should have been gained within a health care organisation, previous NHS experience is not seen as a pre-requisite.

Please write with typed cv to: J. D. M. Morton, Account Director, Ref 100 G. Austin Knight Advertising Limited, London W1A 1DS. Applications are forwarded to the client concerned therefore authorities in which you are not interested should be listed in a covering letter.

Austin Knight Advertising

Amended Advertisement (Previous Applicants need not re-apply)

RECREATION DEVELOPMENT ASSISTANT

£7,718-£8,454

This is a new post in the Recreation Department to assist with all aspects of the Management and Development of open space, especially play areas and the Countryside Ranger Service. Applicants should have a relevant degree professional qualification. Experience of similar work an advantage and driving licence essential.

Bracknell District Council is responsible for substantial areas of open space including Nature Reserves Country Parks Recreational Routes and Play Areas.

For further particulars and application form (returnable by 22nd February 1985) please send SAE to Chief Personnel Officer, Bracknell District Council, Easthampstead House, Town Square, Bracknell, RG12 1AG.



Bracknell District Council

SOLON HOUSING ASSOCIATION

is a collectively run, equal pay association dealing with a diversity of client groups for special housing needs and general family housing for fair rent.

DEVELOPMENT WORKER

To identify and co-ordinate the purchase of properties, and liaise with funding authorities, special needs groups and architects on all aspects of development and design of projects.

BUILDING/QUANTITY SURVEYOR

To assist the in-house design team from initial scheme appraisal and at all stages to final accounts. Some knowledge of publicly funded rehabilitation schemes preferable.

ARCHITECT

With enthusiasm and some experience, to work on our programme of mainly rehabilitation with some new build schemes in Lambeth.

Salary for all posts: £11,058 pa. with 28 days' holiday.

For details, write to Solon Housing Association, 381 Clapham Road, London SW9 9BT, or telephone 01-274 9998/9/0.

Solon welcomes all applicants, regardless of race, sex or sexuality

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S DEPARTMENT Race Relations Unit

RESEARCH ASSISTANT FOR SURVEY OF LEICESTER

(12 months)

Salary: £7,524-£8,262

Required to undertake the detailed analysis of data from the Survey of Leicester

The purpose of the Survey was to obtain information which could be used to combat racial discrimination in Leicester. Information was collected on the various ethnic, language and religious groups in the City. A report on the initial results has been published. The Research Assistant will undertake further computer analysis and statistical testing of the Survey results, advise on the interpretation of the results and their policy implications and assist in the preparation of reports. She/he will be responsible to the Principal Race Relations Officer, but will work closely with Working Groups made up of representatives of the local authorities and local voluntary groups, particularly Asian and Afro-Caribbean groups.

Knowledge of survey methods and statistics and experience of computer analysis are essential. An understanding of race relations issues and a strong commitment to equal opportunities for black people are also essential. Previous experience of race relations research work would be advantageous.

Assistance with relocation expenses up to a maximum of £2,075 and temporary housing accommodation are available in approved cases.

Application form (returnable by 22nd February) and further details from: Director of Personnel and Management Services, New Walk, Centre, Welford Place, Leicester LE1 6ZG. Tel. (0533) 549922, extension 7084.

LEICESTER CITY COUNCIL

As part of the City Council's Equal Opportunity Policy, applications are welcome from people of all ethnic origins, race, sex, age, religion or disability.

ASSISTANT COMMUNITY RELATIONS OFFICER (Social Welfare)

To work within the policy and regulations of the Manchester Council for Community Relations for the development of good community relations in the city of Manchester between ethnic minorities and the host community and among ethnic minorities themselves.

Responsibilities will include:

Provision of Social Welfare Advisory Service to individuals and families. Investigation of areas of need within ethnic communities and preparation of reports of findings for consideration by the Social Welfare Sub-Committee. Undertaking speaking engagements to promote increased awareness of Social Welfare needs of ethnic communities and encouragement of appropriate training and procedural practices to enable other agencies to better meet ethnic communities needs.

SALARY SCALE: AP4 (£7,524 - £8,262). For job description and application form write to: The Administrative Officer, Manchester Council for Community Relations, Elliott House, 3 Jackson's Row, Deansgate, Manchester, M2 9PD. Tel: (061) 824 9153. Enclosing a S.A.E. Closing date for return of forms Friday, 22nd February, 1985.

INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS HOUSE ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT

In addition to managerial responsibility in admin areas usual to residential establishments, the post will include considerable amounts of weekend and evening work within a 40 hour week. The successful candidate will be energetic, probably mid 20s, will accept responsibility and use own initiative. Salary £5,650 plus accommodation and food provided. Details, and application from: A. M. Novella, 228 Great Portland Street, London W.1.

To Advertise in Public Appointments

Write or phone: The Guardian Classified Advertisement Department

119 Farringdon Road London EC1R 3ER Tel: 01-278 2332

or 164 Deansgate Manchester M60 2RR Tel: 061-832 7200 Ext 2161

ARMS NUTRITIONIST

Action for Research into Multiple Sclerosis, based at Central Middlesex Hospital, is seeking a versatile, experienced dietician (CHIEF IV) to act in an advisory/educational capacity. Further details and application form from: Rosemary Aldworth, ARMS Research Unit, Central Middlesex Hospital, Acton Lane, London NW10 7NS, or Tel 01-851 4971.

BURDETT 'MATCHBOX' CENTRE

Project Leader

Salary NJC Scale SO1/2

£9,477 to £11,025

plus £1,191 London Allowance

The 'Matchbox' is a multi-activity Community Resource based on the Burdett Estate, London, E14. The Centre provides a range of activities for the multi-racial neighbourhood which it serves.

This is an exciting and challenging post in a project that is in the process of change and expansion. The Project Leader will work closely with the Centre's Council of Management. S/he will be involved in developing new activities and in encouraging increased local involvement and control of the project. S/he will be expected to co-ordinate the present work manage the day-to-day running of the Centre, supporting and supervising staff and volunteers.

Applicants should have practical knowledge in the field of community development, experience and ability is as important as professional qualification in social work, education or Youth and Community work.

For application form and further details please write enclosing s.a.e. to: Maureen Muddell, Personnel Officer, Save the Children Fund, 17 Grove Lane, Camberwell, London, SE5 8RD. For informal discussion phone Martin Franks (present Project Leader) on 987 6297.

Closing date: 22nd February, 1985

Save the Children

HUMBERSIDE COUNTY COUNCIL COUNTY ARCHITECT'S DEPARTMENT

Area Building Surveyor

—CA 128 and CA 132 Scale 4/5 — £6,264-£7,896

Required at the Divisional Maintenance Office, Castle Street, Hull and Phoenix House, Beverley. The successful applicant will be one of a team working under the control of the Divisional Building Surveyor on preparing specifications for planned maintenance and minor improvements works. To supervise maintenance works and special projects as required and such other duties as the County Architect may decide.

An appropriate qualification (e.g. C.I.O.B., R.I.C.S., H.T.E.C. in Building) will be an advantage.

An appropriate car user allowance and telephone allowance.

Application Forms from: Peter G.H. Dale, J.P., R.I.B.A., A.R.I.A.S., County Architect, County Hall, Beverley, North Humberside HU17 9BA.

Closing date 15th February 1985.

All applicants are considered on the basis of their suitability for the job irrespective of disability, race, creed, sex or marital status. Disabled candidates whose applications have the written support of their D.R.O. will be guaranteed an interview.

For further details and application form (returnable by 22nd February 1985) please send SAE to: Chief Personnel Officer, Bracknell District Council, Easthampstead House, Town Square, Bracknell, RG12 1AG.

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HEREFORD AND WORCESTER PROBATION SERVICE

VISIT CENTRE ADMINISTRATOR

(STARTING SALARY: £5,838 + pay award pending)

We are looking for someone who is resourceful, adaptable and able to work on their own initiative to appoint as Administrator to the Evesham Visit Centre. This primarily involves responsibility for the day-to-day management of a house providing accommodation and support for relatives visiting Long Lartin Prison and also for local people on an emergency basis. It is necessary to work closely with the local probation office and other voluntary organisations. There may be other duties related to the work of the Probation Office small self-contained flat is available.

Formal qualifications are not required though this post may be of interest to someone seeking initial social work experience but qualities of tact, patience and understanding are important. Please send s.a.e. for further details and application forms returnable by 15th February 1985 to Colin Archer, Assistant Chief Probation Officer, 3/4 Shaw Street, WORCESTER, WR1 3QD.

DIRECTOR OF HOUSING

£24,099 / £26,487 (Under Review)

The prime requisite is a proven record of success in top management in the public sector (not necessarily in Housing), a full knowledge of local government and its problems, with the commitment and ability to achieve results. We want you to help us to translate our policies into action and to overcome the obstacles and problems associated with change.

You will be leading a team of 800 people and managing a housing stock of 102,000 dwellings which provide homes for 46% of the City's residents. You will need to prove your ability to manage a large organisation and to co-ordinate the technical and professional expertise in the Department with a sound participative style of teamwork and leadership based on mutual respect. You must be able to promote constructive working relationships with members and with other departments who have an input into the Housing function.

The responsibilities to your own staff and to the members are matched by those to our tenants particularly those in need — the poor, the elderly, the handicapped and those likely to suffer discrimination.

The Council's policy of equal opportunity and the abolition of discrimination is of paramount importance. This applies not only in the sphere of Council employment but also in the delivery of services to its citizens and the Director of Housing has a vital role to play in the achievement of this strategy. Of equal importance is the development of Neighbourhood Services to bring the functions closer to the people both in terms of delivery and the promotion of a better understanding of local problems and priorities. A parallel commitment in Housing is the development of tenant participation in the running of the Housing Service.

If you think you can fulfil these requirements please telephone 061-234 7501 for further particulars and an application form.

Applications should be returned to the Director of Personnel, 4th Floor, Cumberland House, Crown Square, Manchester M60 3BB by 22 February, 1986.

MANCHESTER City Council

Manchester City Council is an equal opportunity employer, and we warmly welcome applications from women and men regardless of their racial, ethnic or national origin, disability, age, sexuality or responsibility for dependants.

WOLVERHAMPTON BOROUGH COUNCIL

SOCIAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT

DUTY SOCIAL WORKER

CENTRAL AREA

This is no ordinary job and requires no ordinary person

It requires someone with tact, initiative and confidence, three characteristics the previous post holder possesses and who, incidentally, has gone on to better things within the department.

This post is vital to the efficient and effective running of our Central Area field social work service. The person we appoint will be responsible for undertaking short term initial contact work and must be capable of dealing forcibly but fairly with a difficult but quite varied number of social problems.

We appreciate that such a person may be difficult to find. But if you're C.O.S.W. trained and you picture yourself fulfilling this arduous and quite often challenging task, this job is right for you.

Why not give Bruce Rowley (the previous incumbent) or Trevor Morris (Area Officer) a ring on Wolverhampton 27811 Ext 2873. You've got everything to gain and nothing to lose.

Salary Social Work Level III £9,477-£10,716

Application form and job description from Director of Social Services, Civic Centre, St Peter's Square, Wolverhampton. Closing date 20th February 1986

Wolverhampton Council welcomes applications from all sections of the Community irrespective of an individual's sex, ethnic origin or colour, and from people with disabilities who have the necessary attributes to do the job.

This year Wolverhampton celebrates 1,000 years. Apart from its history, the town provides a setting where people can work and live in an atmosphere of enterprise and freedom.



Director of Leisure Services

Leisure is becoming an increasingly important facet of all our lives.

In recognition of this, a new post has been created which carries prime responsibility for optimising the use of the District's already substantial facilities and, through positive marketing, promotion and innovative planning, it also has a brief to ensure that our future approach to leisure and tourism both anticipates and satisfies the ever-increasing leisure, sporting and cultural needs of over 120,000 residents and the one million plus visitors annually attracted to our ancient city and its surrounding countryside.

This challenging task demands a strength and quality of marketing skills, developed either in a senior role in a progressive Authority or in a leisure-related business in the private sector coupled with exceptional leadership and team-management talents. The present leisure team comprises around 75 full-time staff and is supplemented by casual and part-time employees. The remuneration package will include a minimum starting salary of £17,250 plus Local Government and car allowance.

Applications are invited from anyone, irrespective of their sex, marital status, race, religion or colour.

For further information and an application form, which must be returned by 28th February 1986, please contact the Personnel Director, St Albans District Council, 82 Hatfield Road, St Albans, Herts, Tel: St Albans (0727) 64661 ext 33.



Commonwealth Secretariat

Special Adviser (Legal)

Technical Assistance Group

Commonwealth Fund for Technical Co-operation

Applications are invited for the post of Special Adviser (Legal) in the Technical Assistance Group (TAG) of the Commonwealth Fund for Technical Co-operation (CFTC). The appointment will be made at the level of Director in the Commonwealth Secretariat.

TAG is the highly operational in-house consultancy arm of the CFTC. Most of its members are lawyers, economists or financial analysts. The group provides Commonwealth Governments with legal, economic and financial advice relating to major foreign investment projects, maritime resource development and macro-economic policies and management. Much of the work is done in terms, sometimes supplemented by outside consultants. The investment projects mainly concern the oil and gas sector and hard rock mining.

The Adviser's principal tasks would be to provide advice on the legal aspects of investment projects in developing countries and to advise Commonwealth governments on the dealings with transnational corporations; advise on the legislative framework for particular kinds of investments, with special emphasis on natural resource projects; advise on and, where appropriate, draft investment contracts; and advise on and prepare for negotiations with transnational corporations and financial institutions and, when required to do so by governments, to participate in such negotiations.

This appointment is normally for an initial period of two to three years. Salary will be in the British range of £21,996-£25,788 (gross) p.a. plus for the appointee, 12% of salary as enhancement allowance, and for an overseas appointee, expatriation and other allowances.

Further details of the post will be supplied on request. Applications, giving full details of qualifications and experience, together with the names and addresses of three referees, should be sent, by 31st March 1986, to:

The Director
Administration Division
Commonwealth Secretariat
Marlborough House
Pall Mall, London SW1W 9EX
Telephone: 01-329 3411

City of Salford

DATA PROCESSING

COMPUTER CENTRE, SWINTON

PRINCIPAL SYSTEMS DEVELOPMENT OFFICER

(P034) £12,243-£14,388

SENIOR SYSTEMS DEVELOPMENT OFFICER

(P023) £11,258-£13,526

SYSTEMS ANALYST/PROGRAMMER

(Scale 5/501) £7,524-£10,107

PROGRAMMER

(Scale 1/4) £3,144-£7,329

Post Ref. 30193/C

The Computer Centre provides, to all Departments of the City Council, computer and data processing services, using an ICL dual 2866 (VME) machine, terminals and small computers.

The Applications Development Division of the Computer Centre is responsible for the analysis, design, programming and implementation of new and modified computer applications.

Each Principal Systems Development Officer is immediately responsible to the Assistant D.P. Manager (Applications Development) for the supervision and performance of a team consisting of Senior Systems Development Officers, Systems Analysts, Systems Designers and Programmers.

Applicants for the posts should possess experience in one or more of the following:

- Project supervision and implementation
- Systems Analysis and Design
- Program Design and Specification
- DBMS and DDS
- COBOL
- PLAN

Applications will also be welcomed from GRADUATES and people in other professions who are seeking a career in computing.

Application forms may be obtained from: The Personnel Manager, Salford City Centre, Swinton, Manchester M27 2BN Telephone 061-733 3158

Please quote the above post reference in all communications. Closing date for applications: 22nd February 1986

BETHNAL GREEN AND EAST LONDON HOUSING ASSOCIATION

HOUSING ASSISTANT

We are seeking an energetic and committed person to join a small team concerned with all aspects of management for 550 tenancies mainly in the Tower Hamlets Area of East London, and also involved in the development and rehabilitation programme of the association.

Commencing salary in the range of £6,250 to £7,750 depending on qualifications and experience.

Job description and application form from: The Secretary, Bethnal Green and East London Housing Association, Tarrant House, 9 Roman Road, London E2 0HX. Telephone: 01-981 0931.

MANAGER — MUSWELL HILL MANAGER — TOTTENHAM

N.W.L.H.A. works closely with the Middlesex Probation Service in providing accommodation for ex-offenders. We have two vacancies in the Haringey area. Tasks include supporting the residents, assessing their housing needs, liaison with the probation service and housing association. Starting salary is £7,772 + payment for sleeping duties. Application forms and job descriptions from: N.W.L.H.A., 25 The Avenue, London, N.W.5. Tel: 01-451 7733. (Closing date Monday, 25th February).



PROJECT ORGANISER

Required for 3 year DHSS funded scheme.

The organiser will set up, develop and administer the project, including special responsibility for senior management courses. She will be responsible for a self-help manual, support field workers, and a telephone counselling service co-ordinator.

Relevant experience/qualifications as advantages.

Salary £5,301 pay award pending and salary level under review.

Internal enquiries, job and project description form. Copied 1985, 200 The Vale Street, Wetherby, West Yorkshire LS23 7ED. Tel: (01937) 82926.

Applications by letter with C.V. Closing date: 1st March, 1986. Interviews 11th March, 1986.

FREE FORM DESIGN & TECHNICAL AID SERVICE

AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER is looking for a part-time Architect or a full-time Architect/Planner to work 2-3 days per week, or a full-time Architect/Planner. To give design and technical advice and develop ideas to feasibility stage — working with a variety of community groups on urban regeneration schemes.

For an application form apply to Free Form Arts Trust Ltd., 38 Dalston Lane, London E8 3AZ. Funded by London Borough of Hackney.

CUMBRIA TOURIST BOARD

MEMBERSHIP AND ADMINISTRATION MANAGER

Salary c. £10,500

The Cumbria Tourist Board, based in Windermere, wishes to appoint an experienced individual to supervise internal administration and provision of services, with particular attention to the Board's commercial matters.

Having recently reorganised, we have introduced new structures and procedures to heighten efficiency, thus enabling the Board to better meet the needs of its members whilst advancing interest in, and development of, Cumbria's tourism industry.

The Board deals with many local and national organisations and people involved with tourism throughout the county. With this in mind, it is essential to maintain effective administration. The person appointed, qualified to degree standard or equivalent with BTEC and preferably HND in Business Studies, will demonstrate proven budgetary and administrative skills (including familiarity with the design and implementation of computer systems). Specific duties will include budget preparation, monitoring and accounting; office management including personnel matters; and the development of commercial membership services.

Local Government conditions of service apply and assistance is available towards removal expenses.

A car user allowance is attached to the post.

Further details and application forms from: A. Fraser, Secretary, Cumbria Tourist Board, The Courts, Carlisle, Cumbria. Tel: Carlisle 23456, Ext. 240 or 215.

Closing date for receipt of applications: 20th February, 1986.



PADDINGTON CHURCHES HOUSING ASSOCIATION

The Camden office of this well established association requires a

HOUSING OFFICER

With housing management experience to take responsibility for the full range of day-to-day duties relating to approximately 200 units. Experience with housing action areas and/or housing for the elderly is desirable. Salary scale £7,407-£9,693. Applicants should have considerable knowledge of welfare benefits, proven administrative and numeracy skills, a commitment to team work, self-motivation and enthusiasm, and a driving licence.

As part of our equal opportunities policy applications are welcome from people regardless of sex, sexual orientation, disability or ethnic origins.

For further details and application form, please contact Barbara Hetherington on 01-328 1853.

CO-OPERATIVE DEVELOPMENT SERVICES (LIVERPOOL) LIMITED

CDS is an inner city community based housing association buying and improving other housing for rent in Housing Action Areas, building new houses and working with housing co-operatives.

Our Wirral Area Office has a vacancy for a

PROJECT ASSISTANT

(Part-time: 26 hours per week)

Grade AN: Points 24 to 27 (gr-pts)

Annual Salary range: £5,374 to £5,973

To provide housing management services to a number of co-operatives, and an information service for CDS tenants and co-ops, to help develop housing management services for the elderly and to assist with special housing projects.

We are looking for:

- an interested commitment to community control of housing
- effective communication and administration skills
- an interest in housing provision for the elderly within the community
- previous experience of housing management, or social or community work will be an advantage
- a mature and flexible outlook and the ability to work as part of a team

A current driving licence will be an advantage.

Per application forms and more information phone 051-724 222.

Applications should be returned to Catherine Meredith (Director), CDS (Liverpool), Central Office, 29-31 Bold Street, Liverpool, L1 4EJ.

Closing date: Wednesday 20th February, 1986.

CDS is an Equal Opportunities Employer and welcomes applications irrespective of sex, race or disability.



The Ramblers' Association (Scotland)

invites applications for the post of

OFFICER FOR SCOTLAND

(Salary £9,500)

The officer's duties will include advising and servicing the association's Scottish Council, increasing the association's membership in Scotland and working to strengthen walkers' rights in Scotland.

For further details write to: The Secretary, The Ramblers' Association, 1 Wandsworth Road, London SW9 2LJ.

OPPORTUNITIES IN PERSONNEL AND TRAINING

Our Central Personnel Function has recently been reviewed and a number of new posts created.

The London Borough of Newham employs some 12,000 people in 9 separate departments serving a population of over 200,000. The Council is committed to ensuring equality of opportunity both in its role as an employer and in the delivery of services to the community. Central Personnel Services have a major role in implementing this policy which has implications for all aspects of its work. We would therefore welcome applications from people who share the Council's commitment on this issue.

Recruitment, Training and Development Section

Principal Personnel Officer

Ref: CE211

PO(9-12) £13,983 — £15,015 p.a. inc.

To head a section of seven staff responsible for providing training and development which is cost effective and related to the needs of individual employees as well as overseeing recruitment and the Council's involvement in YTS and other schemes for the unemployed. You will be responsible for analysing training needs developing and evaluating courses and presenting course material where appropriate. You should have 2 or 3 years training experience and be qualified or studying for MTD/AIPM or equivalent.

Senior Personnel Officer

Ref: CE401

PO(1-4) £11,373 — £12,219 p.a. inc.

To concentrate initially on equal opportunities and new technology training and the development of specific programmes in professional skills. You will be responsible for analysing training needs developing and evaluating courses and presenting course material where appropriate. You should have 2 or 3 years training experience and be qualified or studying for MTD/AIPM or equivalent.

Personnel Officer

Ref: CE402

Trainee/Scale 6 up to £9,771 p.a. inc.

To provide support to training staff in the central Manpower Recruitment and Development Section including the compilation of course material, the issue of course programmes and the control and use of visual and audio aids on training courses. There will be opportunities for career development by gaining experience in all aspects of training. Some experience of administration in a large organisation is desirable.

Manpower Services Section

Senior Personnel Officer

Ref: CE108

SO(1/2) £10,134 — £11,682 p.a. inc.

To advise on conditions of service matters and assist in the preparation of manpower information; an initial requirement will be the production of revised employee handbooks. You will also work closely with employment relations staff.

You should ideally have some knowledge of local government conditions of service and be qualified or studying for AIPM or equivalent.

Newham is an outer London Borough sitting just north of the Thames. With Barking, Waltham Forest, and Hackney as its immediate neighbours. We are well served for public transport and you can reach us easily by car via the M11 and M25 motorways, the North Circular and Blackwall Tunnel.

Benefits may include mileage allowance, and in approved cases loan to purchase a car, subsistence and home travel allowance, 100% removal expenses and a grant of up to £1,000 towards legal costs in connection with house purchase.

Application forms are available from the Chief Executive's Department, Town Hall, East Ham, London E6 or by telephoning 01-471 0619 (24 hour answering service). Please quote the appropriate reference.

Closing date: 27th February, 1986.



WOOLWICH CITIZENS' ADVICE BUREAU BUREAU ORGANISER

£9,667-£11,166 (incl London Weighting) plus 4.5% pay award

To join busy inner city team of five part-time advisers and several volunteers.

Advice work experience essential, with CAB training preferred. Management skills and experience desirable. Initial major task will be the move of premises in April, and previous responsibility for premises would therefore be an asset.

For application form and further details, send stamped addressed A4 envelope quoting Ref S24 to Jean Ellis, GLCABS, 31 Wellington Street, London WC2E 7QH.

Closing date: 22nd February, 1986.

CITY CITIZENS' ADVICE BUREAU ORGANISER

£10,251-£11,730 pa

(re-advertisement)

This busy bureau serves the half-million people working in the City of London and the residential population, and deals with an exceptionally wide range of problems.

We are looking for someone with a mature outlook, capable of working closely with a small team. Management ability essential. Advice work or CAB experience desirable.

Previous applicants need not apply. Ref E35.

PLAISTOW CITIZENS' ADVICE BUREAU

ADVICE WORKER

£7,818-£8,523 pa

For busy bureau situated in the Barking Road serving a multi-ethnic community. Enquiries are mainly in the areas of employment, social security and housing benefit.

CAB and/or relevant advice work experience highly desirable. In-service training provided. Ref E36.

Closing date for both posts: 22nd February, 1986.

For application form please send self-addressed A4 envelope marked E35 or E36 to Marian Protasiewicz, East London Area Office, Greater London Citizens' Advice Bureau Service, 31 Wellington Street, London WC2.

As an equal opportunities employer, GLCABS encourages all applications regardless of disability, race, sex or creed.



EDUCATION DEPARTMENT

EDUCATION WELFARE OFFICERS

Because of retirements, there will be TWO vacancies for Education Welfare Officers in the Western Team in May.

POST COO29X is based in a WEYMOUTH secondary school. This is an expanding part of the town and offers a challenge to the successful applicant. There are opportunities to develop IT and preventive work.

POST COO27X is to serve three rural comprehensive schools and their associated primary schools and will be based in BRIDPORT. It may be of particular interest to applicants with experience of rural communities.

Salary for both posts on Scales 4/5/6, £6,264-£7,712 according to qualifications and experience.

If you have the CQSW and want to specialise in work with children and families the Education Welfare Service may be the place for you.

Informal enquiries to Jo Early (Team Leader) or David Bowen (Principal Education Welfare Officer) on Dorchester 63131, extension 4143.

Application forms, returnable by 21 February, 1986, and further details, from: County Education Officer (MD), County Hall, Dorchester, Dorset, DT1 1XJ. Tel: Dorchester 63191, ext. 4171. Please indicate which post number interests you in particular.



GLC

Working for London

Transport Planner

To assist in developing the Council's strategic transport model, with responsibility for updating and handling the associated road network data and processing the model's output.

A degree-equivalent qualification in Transport Planning or related field is required, with experience in computer representation of road networks. Applicants should also have experience of at least 3 of the following: large frame computer system, FORTRAN programming, NATURAL programming, transportation modelling, traffic theory.

Salary: £11,325 - £13,065 inclusive.

For an application form, to be returned by 22nd February 1985, write to: GLC Transport & Development Department, Ref: 215, Room 454B, The County Hall, SE1 7PB or telephone 01-633 7791.

Finance and Information Officer

To undertake the day-to-day management of the Finance Department's personnel, accommodation, training and computer budgets. This post also involves the implementation and development of new technology applications within the department, with special responsibility in maintaining data security including advising user departments.

The work demands proven analytical abilities, practical experience of new technology, an understanding of staff development issues and a commitment to equal opportunities. Applicants should be part-qualified accountants (including AAT and HND) with some financial work experience or have 3 years' experience plus an awareness of financial management in a large organisation. Salary: £9,255 - £11,325 inclusive.

For an application form, to be returned by 22nd February 1985, write to: GLC Finance Department, Room 206, The County Hall, SE1 7PB or telephone 01-633 7669.

The GLC is an equal opportunities employer. We invite applications from women and men from all sections of the community, irrespective of their ethnic origin, colour, sexual orientation or disability, who have the necessary attributes to do the job.

These posts are suitable for job sharing

MINERALS IN STAFFORDSHIRE

Principal Officer (MINERALS)

GRADE PO C/E (£12,243-£15,387 per annum)

Applications are invited from suitably professional qualified persons offering experience, ability and enthusiasm to lead the Minerals Team in the County Planning and Development Department. A wide variety of minerals, including coal, sand and gravel, clay, limestone, silica sands and gypsum are worked in the County and there are some 120 active sites.

The successful applicant will be responsible for all aspects of the Team's work. Qualifications in town planning and mining or quarrying or geology will be preferred.

Application forms and further details from the County Planning and Development Officer, Martin Street, Stafford ST16 2LE. The closing date for applications is 25th February 1985.

Canvassing will disqualify. Trade Union membership desirable.

Staffordshire County Council

SPECIALIST AUDITING HOUSING ASSOCIATIONS

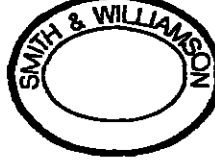
At present we are responsible for the audit of over thirty Housing Associations, covering the whole spectrum of the housing movement.

Currently, we are looking for a Senior to specialise in the audit of our Housing Association Clients.

The successful applicant will be expected to assist in a wide range of other professional services. Experience of housing associations would be an advantage, but appropriate training will be given; professional qualifications are desirable, but a commitment to the voluntary housing movement is essential.

Salary will be by negotiation and will reflect the ability of the candidate. The position is based in Central London, but travel throughout the Home Counties will be involved.

Please apply in writing with detailed CV, to: Miss F. Ward-McQuaid, Smith & Williamson, 7 Chandos Street, Cavendish Square, London W1M 9DE



ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT

required by The British Association of Urological Surgeons. Duties include record-keeping, accounts, committee work, conference organisation, and general office work. Shorthand, typing and word-processor experience essential. Salary on Whitley Council scale from £8,779 (under review). Job description on application; CV to Honorary Secretary (G), BAUS, Royal College of Surgeons, 35/43 Lincoln's Inn Fields, London, WC2A 3PN. (01-405 1930.)

YOUTH AND COMMUNITY WORKER (YOUTH WORK)

A vacancy exists in an Urban Aid Youth Project managed by a community based voluntary organisation. The contract will be for a two year period initially.

Main responsibilities:
• Work with the Youth Equity Service
• Develop work with unemployed groups
• Recruitment and training of volunteers
• Supporting a range of youth clubs and programmes for young people

Salary scale £7,404-£9,660 plus 7½% uncontracted hours allowance

Application forms should be requested in writing from: The Youth Team, Community Centre, 344 Marshall Hill, GLASGOW G2 7YE. Closing date for application: 19th February 1985.

HEALTH

CENTRAL BIRMINGHAM HEALTH AUTHORITY Health Education Officer (part-time) (Ref: 215) (Scale £5,370-£6,370) (inc. pension) (Full-time) (Scale £6,370-£7,370) (inc. pension) (Full-time) (Scale £7,370-£8,370) (inc. pension) (Full-time) (Scale £8,370-£9,370) (inc. pension) (Full-time) (Scale £9,370-£10,370) (inc. pension) (Full-time) (Scale £10,370-£11,370) (inc. pension) (Full-time) (Scale £11,370-£12,370) (inc. pension) (Full-time) (Scale £12,370-£13,370) (inc. pension) (Full-time) (Scale £13,370-£14,370) (inc. pension) (Full-time) (Scale £14,370-£15,370) (inc. pension) (Full-time) (Scale £15,370-£16,370) (inc. pension) (Full-time) (Scale £16,370-£17,370) (inc. pension) (Full-time) (Scale £17,370-£18,370) (inc. pension) (Full-time) (Scale £18,370-£19,370) (inc. pension) (Full-time) (Scale £19,370-£20,370) (inc. pension) (Full-time) (Scale £20,370-£21,370) (inc. pension) (Full-time) (Scale £21,370-£22,370) (inc. pension) (Full-time) (Scale £22,370-£23,370) (inc. pension) (Full-time) (Scale 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DIARY

IT SHOULD not be thought that the NCB has totally abandoned hope of negotiating a settlement. NCB headquarters has just ordered a £3,000 management training seminar kit called "How to run a meeting" from John Ciesse's training film company, Video Arts. The kit claims to teach "the social skills needed to unite, focus and mobilise meeting members" and offers three easy steps to follow to get people to work constructively at meetings. It also offers, which should be handy, "an understanding of the key methods, or wrecking meetings."

DIARY

THE Aberdeenshire village of Old Meldrum (pop. 1,000) has been bubbling with whispers this week following a local paper's claim that the minister's wife has been running a kiss-a-gram service from the manse. The service, which offers champagne breakfast in bed from "Michelle, our French maid" or the attentions of "Miss hearthrob" ("she will smother you in kisses"), is run by a "Miss Fiona Sharp" at the Manse, Old Meldrum. The minister's wife, Mrs. Fiona Johnstone, has promised a full statement on the affair, but greeted written inquiries on the matter by tearing them into small pieces and scattering them across an adjoining field. A Church of Scotland spokesman said he could not imagine such a state of affairs existing.

SCENES from court life

Mr Justice Cottle informs Mr. Kees Davies QC that his address is "getting a little soporific." This may, Mr. Davies ventures to explain, be on account of the need for all his words to be translated into Arabic. "I have to go to," Mr. Davies retorts. Mr. Justice Cottle, "put a little more enthusiasm into it." What is British justice coming to?

MR MICHAEL Heselton must view with some alarm the activities of one or two of his cabinet colleagues as he watches the effect of their proposals on the shares held in trust for him against the day he ever slackens his clasp on high office. Chiefly, these consist of more than 100,000 shares in Haymarket publishing group — which represents a very serious side indeed. Haymarket will, of course, be trembling at the nature of the dent Mr. Lawrence's thoughts of imposing VAT on magazines might cause to the Haymarket output. While Mr. Norman Fowler's recent proposals to limit the range of proprietary drugs has already caused 50 million cutbacks to medical publications, and led to 11 medical titles closing last year, with another eight threatened this year, Haymarket is, of course, a prominent publisher of medical titles. Best to soldier on in office and try not to think about it.

THE NATIONAL Union of Students' book of election manifestos for those standing for office in the coming elections certainly betrays a snappy line in copywriting on behalf of the young Conservative candidates: "We sank the Belgrano," runs one slogan, and we'll sink the US. Meanwhile, a spate of resignations has now followed amidst the hierarchy of Cambridge University Young Conservatives in the wake of the mini-Watergate (this column, Saturday) in which senior officers were tape-recorded making snivelling admissions of ballot-rigging. Such is the frisson that the tape has caused in young Tory circles that a dramatization of it is planned for the coming Federation of Conservative Students' annual conference.

MR DAVID Ashby (Con Lettice NW) has a mining constituency which includes to minefields — the S. Derbyshire minefield, and about 80 per cent of the S. Derbyshire minefield. (Interpretation) "I beg your pardon, I mean of course coalfield."

THE Manpower Services Commission evidently does not go along with the consensus view that blacks tend not to be great claimants of social security benefits. A leaked internal letter from the MSC HQ in Sheffield denies that blacks will do badly out of the Community Programme because it is available only to benefit claimants. Although it is popularly thought that ethnic minorities often do not claim benefit, writes Mr. N. J. Atkinson of the Employment Division, "there is actually research evidence to show that they are as studious in this if not more so, than their white counterparts." **Alan Rusbridger**



Creating a new political consensus; Scandinavian peace marchers head for Moscow

YALTA 1945: Jonathan Steele looks at the security map of Europe which has evolved since the meeting of Churchill, Roosevelt and Stalin and examines how it could change

How to bust the blocks of Europe

IMAGINE Europe in the year 2025 with British troops still in Berlin, Germany still divided by automatic shooting-devices and tank traps on the border, and the world's largest arsenal of short- and medium-range nuclear weapons ranged against each other in precarious invitation to mutual suicide. Fantasy, surely. Can it really be that the status quo of 1985 which seems so normal to today's decision-makers — 40 years since Yalta will prevail for 40 more? Imagine, instead, a different scenario for 2025 — a Europe with no foreign forces posted abroad, all American troops back home and all Soviet troops likewise departed, leaving behind a continent of independent states.

Today that is fantasy too, but could it not be — if the right decisions start to be taken soon — that the second scenario may come closer to the reality that will be lived out in 2025 than the nuclear-based one which we endure in 1985?

Slowly and tentatively a few Europeans (and some Americans) are beginning to think of an alternative future. In a strange convergence of impatience on the Yalta issue, members of the western European peace movement and some leading conservatives in the United States refuse to go on being stuck in the contradiction of denouncing the division of Europe while doing nothing tangible about it.

On the right the most sophisticated exponent of the new view is Zbigniew Brzezinski, the Polish-American national security assistant in the Carter administration. Writing in the latest issue of the journal *Foreign Affairs* he argues that Europe's present status — contrary to the conventional wisdom of the various foreign offices — is neither static nor stable. No longer dominated by war guilt, less mesmerised by the American ideal, and distressed by Western Europe's failure to overcome nationalism, the Germans are becoming increasingly interested in re-unification, he writes.

Meanwhile, other western Europeans are taking a new interest in the East as a traditional market for their industrial goods. "As western Europe discovers that in its fragmented condition it is becoming less competitive with the high-tech economies of America and Japan, the notion of a special economic relationship with the East becomes particularly appealing," he says. Faced by growing uncertainty over America's defence commitment, western Europe may gradually drift into a political accommodation with the Soviet Union.

To avoid this possibility, Mr. Brzezinski argues, western Europe must gradually be strengthened. But what begins for him as a defensive holding operation is soon converted, as his argu-

ment proceeds, into a dynamic strategy for reversing Soviet control over eastern Europe. "The historic balance in Europe will be changed gradually in the West's favour only if Russia comes to be faced west of the Elbe rather less by America and rather more by Europe," he goes on.

A wider Europe with the present division undone can emerge by "a deliberately but subtly induced process of change, by historical stealth so to speak, which can neither be quickly detected nor easily resisted."

Brzezinski outlines five steps:

The West should publicly reject the partition of Europe into spheres of influence; reaffirm its support for Europe's existing frontiers; create as many opportunities as possible for eastern Europeans to participate in all-European disarmament; increase its aid to eastern European dissidents; and take a larger role in its own defence, with eventually a fused Franco-German army and a US ground presence heavily reduced.

In a sense Brzezinski's argument is an old one, going back to earlier strategies for weakening eastern Europe away from the Soviet Union. The new element is its strong American support for a revived western European defence effort.

It is this which makes it largely unacceptable to the western European peace movement. As Mary Kaldor, the editor of the *Journal of European Nuclear Disarmament* puts it, "the key issue is whether the process of ending Europe's division comes with demilitarisation."

END argues that, although the peace movement did not succeed in stopping the deployment of cruise missiles in Britain, Italy, or West Germany, it has had huge results in shattering the post-war nuclear consensus. Since then, every ideological shift has been considered a potential security threat. Poles, Hungarians, and Czechs have learnt the hard way that at some time point, undefinable in advance, Moscow will decide an ideological reform movement has gone too far, and is endangering the Warsaw Pact. If Moscow were faced by a belt of neu-

tral states to its west, it would then accept a loosening-up in the east. Moreover, the Soviet Union itself has called for the dissolution of the pact, (as have several western European social democratic parties, including the Labour party in Britain).

If its bluff were called, would Moscow really accept this "Finlandisation" of eastern Europe? Or would it not feel that the transformation of Poland and Hungary into western-style social democracies, or even West German-style christian democracies, was an unacceptable reversal of the onward march of history by which capitalism is meant to be replaced by socialism, and not the other way round?

Soviet control over the eastern European states gives Moscow the ability to define itself as a great power, and the leader of the only other major alliance system in the world apart from the United States.

Are there ways of satisfying Soviet pride on these scores assuming one accepts that real change in eastern Europe can only come with Moscow's consent? What about a "Yugoslavisation" of eastern Europe? Could neutrality emerge in such a way that their regimes maintained an essentially communist system with a leading party, and tight control of the media?

Could newly neutral eastern European states agree to remain in Comecon, the Soviet-led economic grouping, so that the Soviet Union could enjoy the fiction of heading an important grouping of countries rather like the British Commonwealth — a fiction of togetherness cloaking a reality of ideological and economic diversity and an absence of any concrete mutual obligations?

With ideas like these the post-Yalta debate moves further into the realms of apparent fantasy. And yet, as this series argued at the outset, to expect that the present state of European division can survive intact for 40 more years seems fantastic too. The hard thinking should begin now.

Jonathan Steele's book, *The Limits of Soviet Power: The Kremlin's Foreign Policy from Brezhnev to Gorbachev*, was published by Pelican last week at £3.50.

KEITH HARPER on David Basnett, who announces his retirement

General leaves the Municipal



David Basnett; helpless in the face of change

MR DAVID Basnett told his union yesterday that he had had enough. His departure from the General, Municipal and Boilermakers' Union, which he had led for 12 years, was conveyed with little fuss. There was no public announcement and no preceding speculation, but his early retirement from the third largest union in the country continues an enormous upheaval in the leadership of the trade union movement. This began last year with Len Murray's retirement, was furthered by Moss Evans leaving the transport workers in July and will end with the departure of Mr. Terry Duffy, president of the Amalgamated Union of Engineering workers next year.

Through much of his trade union career he has been a private man. A shy, somewhat diffident person, Mr. Basnett emerged as leader of GMBATU as Mr. Jack Jones and Mr. Hugh Scanlon were

reaching the end of their careers in the UEW and the TGWU. In the absence of any other heavyweight in the trade union movement Mr. Basnett has been seen recently as its chief spokesman and architect and it is mainly through him and his work that the movement's more positive aspects have been displayed.

It was he who promoted the establishment of Trade Unions for a Labour Victory, just before the 1979 election. It has suffered from knocks and jibes that it was his personal bandwagon, but it helped to lay the foundation of the new Labour Party headquarters and maintain links with the party at a time when they were fraying. He has always argued for a planned pay policy and has managed to push what was once a right wing union firmly in front of other larger rivals such as the TGWU and the AUEW, as perhaps the most innovative trade union organisation in the country.

Mr. Basnett is a complex man and his decision to retire will have been due to several reasons. He had talked privately about leaving after Labour's huge election defeat in June 1983. He changed his mind, mainly because he thought that he still had a role in laying the groundwork for a fresh attempt by Labour to win the next election in 1987-88.

Two events forced him to reconsider his position. One was the severe injury which his 25-year-old son Ian suffered in a rugby game in Sheffield over the Christmas holiday. It has left him para-

lysed from the neck downwards. The other is the departure of Mr. Larry Whitty, his effervescent head of research, to become general secretary of the Labour Party. Mr. Whitty was more than a research officer, a boy at the GMBATU. He was Mr. Basnett's adviser and speech writer for ten years, a tireless worker, who helped to fashion many of the changes within the GMBATU.

Mr. Basnett has deliberately steered clear of allowing himself to be identified too closely with right or left-wing camps within the TUC. This ambiguity goes back to his assumption of the union's leadership when he was promoted as its most "progressive" candidate. This refusal to be tied down has exasperated TUC colleagues who wished to co-opt him on their side, but it has allowed him to emerge as the central broker of competing interests.

His critics have often drawn attention to what they consider his indecision. A more positive Basnett might have taken on the job of general secretary of the TUC after Len Murray, but he held back because of the jealousy it would have created among the larger unions. He might have made more friends on the TUC general council. He obtained their respect, but his distaste for show and an open style has made him something of an enigma.

Aided by Mr. Whitty and some impressive regional and national officials, he has been able to institute policy for the trade union movement. During his year as

TUC chairman, he broke the tradition of "non-political" chairmanship, and insisted on the unions' link with Labour.

Mr. Basnett's remoteness from his colleagues has not helped him in a period when the trade union movement has been on the defensive and held up to more public scrutiny than at any other time in its history. He will go down in trade union history as a trade union leader who was helpless to stem the significant changes which have been opened up in the trade union movement through two Thatcher governments. But he might have had a little more help from his friends.



The advantage of Indian spies, old boy, is that they work all hours

ALEX BRUMMER reports from Washington on the Anzus Pact

Trouble bubbles in South Seas

THE ANZUS Alliance, the Pacific defence treaty which has bound together the United States, New Zealand and Australia for more than 30 years, is facing the most serious test since its inception as a result of a decision by New Zealand's Labour Prime Minister Mr. David Lange to refuse port access to an American naval destroyer.

In the American view New Zealand's decision, which is based on concern that the destroyer may be carrying nuclear weapons, is a breach of Article Two of the treaty which provides for the United States to take joint military action if there is a "major threat to the security of Australia and New Zealand."

While no one is seriously suggesting that the South Pacific powers are facing such a direct strategic threat at present, the US is questioning the worth of an alliance in which one partner denies another the basic right of port access. It is not just a quarrel, however, between these three South Pacific powers. Britain which also has naval access rights at New Zealand and Australian ports and is a member of the big five group of Pacific powers also has a clear and active interest in holding Anzus together.

The current dispute within the Anzus alliance partly reflects the change of perceptions about the nature of the threat in the Pacific. When the state-to-be US Secretary of State Mr. John Foster Dulles put together the Anzus treaty in 1950-51 the threat in Australia and New Zealand was seen as a double pronged "yellow peril" — a defeated but resurgent Japan and an aggressive regime in Peking expanding its military might and influence throughout south-east Asia.

The Anzus treaty was one of a package of treaties negotiated by Dulles with the aim of neutralising the military potential of Japan and the future threat posed by Communist China. Along with the Anzus treaty defensive alliances were forged with Japan itself, the Philippines and other friendly powers in the Pacific. The pressure for such agreements was as political as strategic.

Within the United States MacCarthyism and the Communist phobia it engendered was at its height and the US had to be seen to be drawing defensive lines against this menace both in the Pacific and European theatres. To a lesser extent Australia, one of the signatories to Anzus, was experiencing the same kind of internal imperative. The defeat of a high ranking Soviet official, with ties to the Australian Labour Party, was a major domestic scandal and is now thought to have contributed to the defeat of the Prime Minister Mr. H. Evatt. This partly resulted in nearly two decades in the political wilderness for the Labour Party.

Indeed, the vehemence with which the current Australian Prime Minister Mr. Bob Hawke has upbraided his New Zealand colleague Mr. Lange over the US warship issue, despite the strength of the nuclear lobby in Australia, may partly reflect his reading of history. The modern Australian Labour party cannot be seen to be vulnerable to the same socialist emotions which led

to the long years of Liberal Party domination down under.

With the acceptance of Japan as an almost full partner in the alliance of industrial countries and the opening of Peking to the West perceptions of the Anzus treaty have greatly changed in recent years. No longer can China and Japan, with which both Australia and New Zealand have good relations be seen as a threat. So the more amorphous threat from the Soviet Union has come into focus. It was at first seen as a pale shadow compared with the fear of Japan and China.

But following the American withdrawal from South-East Asia and the Russian power play in Vietnam and Cambodia the new adversary has appeared much clearer. Anzus had found a new rationale. It was one which became particularly important in the early 1980s as the Reagan administration took the reins of power. After Afghanistan and perceived Soviet gains in Ethiopia, Southern Africa and of course Vietnam the US saw a new menace in the Kremlin. A power hungry Soviet war machine determined to build its naval and sea power in the Pacific.

The Pentagon, in its 1983 publication *Soviet Military Power* graphically described the Soviet build-up in the Far East. It noted that Russian military forces in the region "are second only to those opposite Nato in size." According to the Pentagon the number of Russian tactical planes in the region climbed from 300 in 1968 to about 1,200 by 1983 which together with interceptor aircraft brought total airpower to around 1,700 planes.

Of particular concern within the Pentagon has been the development of a full scale military operations centre at the former US base at Cam Ranh Bay in South Vietnam — where according to Australian diplomats both strategic and reconnaissance planes are based.

Anzus and Japan have also been disturbed by the introduction of SS-20 missiles, the same kind of intermediate range strategic missiles which pose a threat to European cities in the Pacific. It is estimated that one third of the Soviet Union's 330 or so SS-20s are deployed in the Far East. And there have been concerns that these numbers could increase should some SS-20s be expelled by an arms control agreement from the European theatre.

For the United States which patrols the Pacific with its Fifth Fleet based in Honolulu, port facilities in Australia and New Zealand are clearly imperative if the Soviet threat in the southern Pacific is to be deterred. While Anzus, unlike Nato, doesn't deal with specific targets for defence expenditures and weapons and troop procurements, it is useful in the American view to demonstrate a sense of purpose.

New Zealand, by refusing to accept potential US nuclear forces when there are nuclear forces already deployed in the region, is seen as failing the Anzus deterrence strategy. Suddenly, New Zealand is a bit player in the international power game — is seen as testing the resolve of an alliance. And the Reagan White House is not prepared to shrug the matter off.

LAST NIGHT ON TV

Something completely different in Ethiopia.

For the first time, television has shown not just the terrible effects of famine and civil war in Ethiopia, but the people themselves facing up to the crisis.

Peasant farmers and local people, with the help of the Relief Society of Tigray and funds from agencies like Christian Aid, are working to change their land and improve their health and education.

Terraces are being cut in the hillsides to conserve soil and water.

Seed, tools and oxen have arrived.

In Eritrea, teams are exploring for water and digging wells.

Commonly-used medicines are being produced locally by the barefoot doctors and health workers to take to the sick.

But Christian Aid is concerned about such long-term change on a wider scale in Ethiopia, which ultimately only governments can bring about.

It won't happen unless we push for it. Post the coupon and let us tell you how you can help.

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Christian Aid

Hugh Hebert on TV coverage of the famine in Africa

Dust to dust

NEWS happens where reporters are mainly because if it happens anywhere else it just counts as life. I'm not thinking here of the end of Maelstrom (BBC1) where a journalist is found sneaking round a houseboat since he couldn't find any sign of life elsewhere in the script. Nor am I thinking of the end of Brigandage (BBC1) where we hear that a reporter made up a story to discredit a man who owed him £10.

I was thinking more of great swathes of Africa where off and on for more than a decade, but mostly on, what counted as life was drought, hunger and disaster. And off and on, but mostly off, it is also news.

About 18 months ago the Guardian and other papers were already reporting the latest drought disaster, in Ethiopia. Last July Charles Stewart's long, painful film for Central TV, *Seeds of Despair*, hit the screen and the charities launched their big Ethiopia appeal. Yet it was the relatively brief film report by Michael Buerk for the BBC in October, that finally set off the explosion of public concern.

Maybe the concern had already reached the critical level where, at a touch, it would spill over. Or maybe it was because Buerk's moving, low-key report came in the main news bulletin rather than as a late-night documentary. Suddenly everyone was talking Ethiopia and famine, money poured in. The famous did their bit, queued to be seen hiding their lights under bushels.

But the story has changed since then, the caravans and the cameras have moved on. Monday night the BBC reached the Sudan, just pipping Yorkshire TV's First Tuesday team who last night got to Tigre.

Here the story is that the Russian-backed Ethiopian Government has been fighting rebel groups for years, and that none of the emergency food aid is getting through to the famine-stricken countryside. The government uses the bait of food and the bludgeon of its army to make the Tigres move out of the rebel areas. Those who don't starve, or starve, they take the long trek to Sudan. If they'd seen the BBC film on Monday, they'd know that was hopeless too.

The one fruitful oasis First Tuesday found — made by careful refracting to trap fugitive rain — might have been just one of many if it had not been for the guerrilla war, if it had not been for donor nations' reluctance to give development aid in the years since the drought was last in the camera's lens. Instead, it had been East v. West, wrestlers in the dust.

As I was saying when the famine interrupted, Brigandage had Paul Rogers as a best-selling author who finally writes the story on his rather unheroic part in the Spanish Civil War, and then meets two old comrades who accuse him of being a deserter. I quite liked the old heroes disrupting a bingo session and sinking into old bitterness as the Scotch went down. But Terence Hodgkinson's play did get a bit stagey.

Though not as stagey as Maelstrom, Michael J. Bird's new mystery serial about a nice girl who is left a couple of houses in Norway and a fish smoking factory in the fjords by a total stranger. The last five minutes brings sinister hints — a room full of dolls in one of the houses, paintings distantly related to Munch's *The Scream*.

Otherwise it's much like a Fifties British quota movie with people passing polite conversation like canapés, and the constant soft getting of the well-heeled getting well-oiled.

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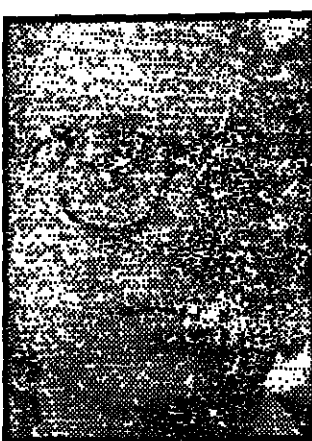
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Putting music to words

Christopher Driver meets the author of *An Evening Of Brahms*



Richard Sennett

CELLISTS, when ambitions fade or the repertoire stales, become conductors. Or philosophers or novelists, perhaps, from their observation post at the root of life's rich harmony. But seldom all three, like Richard Sennett.

Sennett's second novel, *An Evening Of Brahms*, an ingenious, wistful attempt to find fictional language for the physical experience of serious music-making, brought him to the RCA last month for a public conversation

with another American writer, Kathy Acker: her Chicago-serious in polo-neck sweater; she cropped and jangling in New York punk-chic.

Borrowed cultures are second nature to Sennett, whose Old Left Jewish family bequeathed him Russia as well as West Side Chicago. His first novel, *The Frog That Dared To Croak*, explored politics and homosexuality in "a Hungary of the mind" — George Mikes loathed it: "in Brahms 'everything is autobiographical except the facts'."

Sennett studied the cello with Frank Miller, Toscanini's principal cello, who still occupies that position with the Chicago Symphony Orchestra and he took conducting lessons with Pierre Monteux after watching him beat the polyrhythms in *The Rite Of Spring* with his little finger, though he had had to switch from music to sociology to escape the Vietnam draft. And once he had to conduct the Brahms Requiem with a less than expert choir.

By that time he was running an institute for the humanities, a glorified univer-

sity settlement in New York, and had published social critiques such as *The Hidden Injuries Of Class And Authority*, which Faber is to re-issue in paperback.

Brahms is a writer's attempt to do his bit for another art, which cannot be taught without words but resents them all the same. "The finger of the left hand should press the string down just hard enough for the string to touch the fingerboard. All the other fingers should float, the thumb brushing the wood underneath lightly. The left arm can then begin to pulsate forward and back: the motion starts at the elbow passes through the wrist, which does not break under the pulse solidly into the hand and down to the finger. The elbow thus makes the finger roll on the string. When the other arm draws the bow across a string held this way, the rocking finger creates a little rainbow of tones around the centre note: the sound seems to undulate in waves. This caress is a cellist's vibrato."

Other passages pick on the moments when a performer's anxiety knots up a sound, or when a conductor feels a tempo slipping out of control, or when a man realises that it is as much as his marriage is worth to risk playing music in public with his spouse.

The novel also describes, "in variation form, more or less," a death and a mourning. Hence the role of the German Requiem, perhaps the first written to console the doubt of the living rather than to affirm the faith of the dead. Autobiography apart, it also suited Sennett, because for him the evanescence of musical performance makes it "an art terribly close to death: that is why we go on performing the same piece over and over again."

I recalled for him two recent performances of that very requiem in London: both perfectly rehearsed and ready, but the one fractions, searching for the andante tempo never quite found, the other recognised by the singers as right from the first bar. Which performance should the critics have attended, even if they could have known in advance which would be which?

Like most versatile intellectuals, Sennett can turn a wispish phrase—for the publisher who made an earlier book "practically a Samidhat publication for his fellow musicians," washed-out personalities, most of them we use each other, and move on" and for Christopher Hogwood and the baroque reconstructivists who "have taken out of Mozart all the nuances Clifford Curzon put in." (Sennett clearly thought I was joking when I replied that the Academy of Ancient Music was one of the few bands that could all the Albert Hall for a Prom—not with sound of course, but with people all piously straining their ears.)

The philosopher-novelist still gets a chance to write criticism (for Harper's which has no music critic) and to conduct (in sub-sub-Carnegie halls): "I did some Macchaut at a concert recently and the man who found me a style for it was a 23-year-old black from Juilliard who did a lot of jazz. Clay, he was a good scholar too, but how much do the notes ever tell you about a piece of music?"

Does he mean that no music is intelligible without some feeling for the lifestyle of the musicians who first

played it? "Something like that."

By a similar token, novelists are seldom wholly intelligible without knowing who their friends are. Sennett's include the pianist Murray Perahia, who coaches chamber music as perceptively as Signor Grist does in Brahms, the deliciously rude New York restaurateur critic Seymour Britchky, and the Hungarian author of *Anti-Politics*, George Konrad (who was originally to be Sennett's interlocutor at the RCA).

Sennett's book on Authority refers at the outset to Montaigne's kind of authority which "inspired fear, not of the Toccantini sort, a different kind of fear, he had the strength to see through you to refuse what your peers accepted—a quality very close to the Old Testament view of God."

The book proceeds to de-

monstrate the illusions of authority in public life. "We have a principle by which to criticise society based not on abstract deduction about justice and right, but on our intimate knowledge of time."

The public colloquy and the private Sobol lunch were both over. Sennett plans to spend more time in Britain and not just because of the sliding pound and a novel-in-progress about early 19th century faith and doubt in Paris and London.

He is sure other swallows will follow him, feeling New York, "that city of unbridled energy and exhausted imagination. Or, in the language of another evanescent craft, intimately worshipped by most musicians, 'farewell blintzes; welcome, chocolate, Bath Olivers.'"

As though awaiting execution at Pseudo's Corner, Sennett put on his American Hungarian cloak and his droopy Australian hat and disappeared down Greek Street, combining in a single persona the last Chicago Wobblies and the last gay hussar.

An *Evening Of Brahms* is published by Faber at £9.95.



Donald Morley as Mayor and Robert Keegan as a bowler-hatted George Lansbury in *Better Times*: picture by Douglas Jeffery

STRATFORD EAST
Michael Billington

Better Times

THE MESSAGE of Barrie Keeffe's *Better Times* at the Theatre Royal, Stratford East, is abundantly clear: that bad laws should be broken and changed. But although the play deals with its chosen subject — the Poplar rate revolt of 1921 — in fascinating detail and tells a thumping good story, it periodically lapses into inspirational propaganda and draws too easy parallels between the heroic past and the rate-capping present.

The best thing about the play is Mr Keeffe's ability to cram in a lot of information while keeping the narrative line clear. He starts with the establishment of the so-called Poplar Kremlin in 1919 (Labour gained 39 out of 42 council seats).

With great agility he also steers us through the economic facts of the council's crucial revolt: basically they decided to levy the rate of 18s. 3d. needed for local services while refusing to raise the further 19s. claimed by the London County Council.

They stuck out. George Lansbury's instigation, for an equitable rating system. As a result, 30 local councillors went to Brixton and Holloway prisons where they proceeded to carry on bluffing as usual until Lloyd George's Government was forced to come up with a face-saving compromise.

Mr Keeffe marshals the facts clearly, sketches in the diverse backgrounds of the councillors and, in one moving speech, evokes Twentieth Century Poplar culture: women dancing together in the newly-opened parks were widely branded lesbians whereas, a

judge's daughter explains, they had simply lost their menfolk in the war.

What carries less conviction is the way Mr Keeffe pits Lansbury the folk-hero against Herbert Morrison the dedicated bureaucrat. Yet it was Morrison who negotiated the crucial settlement with Lloyd George and who raised perfectly valid arguments about the danger of government intervention in local affairs.

As in many left-wing plays, the past is used too simply as a model for the present. But I always find plays on public issues enlivening, and Philip Hedley's production contains staunch performances from Robert Keegan as a mutinous-shop-whiskered Lansbury (more evidence of his trickiness would have been welcome); from Eric Richard as a soft-voiced Irish alderman; and from Charmian May as an upper-crust Poplar councillor looking like a shiningly fervent Vanessa Redgrave.

WIGMORE HALL

Meirion Bowen

Einar
Johannesson

THIS recital by Einar Johannesson put on show the traditional expressive resources of the clarinet. The instrument was heard at its most primal, for instance, in Alan Hovhaness's *Lament*, a twisting, undulating solo instantly identifiable as a snake charmer's melody.

There was more of this kind of magic mystery in the opening movement of Hovhaness's *Sonata for clarinet and piano*, where Wagner's *Klingor* once more exerted his spell. In the fi-

nale of this sonata, though, Hovhaness broke through to a more up-to-date and jazzy image of the clarinet, and both Johannesson and his piano accompanist, Philip Jenkins, here revelled in the wild rhythms and glissandi that appeared in abundance.

Carl Nielsen's *Fantasy Piece and Saint-Saens's Sonata, Opus 187*, each concentrated on the mellifluous side to the clarinet, the latter work effectively exploiting all its registers, especially the chalumeau in the slow movement. Saint-Saens's sonata was additionally a conventional though convincing musical structure, manifesting a fondness for cyclic procedures — music from the opening allegro returned to close the final movement.

In a piece by the Icelandic composer Sigurjónsson, entitled *Rék* (or *Drift*), one could discern an attempt at formal experimentation. The music was presented as a series of contrasted fragments, whose idiom nevertheless enabled them to appear closely integrated. But it was Brahms's *F Minor Sonata* which commanded full attention as a large-scale symphonic conception, demanding both boldness of delivery and cohesion of ensemble from its interpreters. They were well equal to the task.

ST. JOHN'S

Hugo Cole

Leaper/NCOS

STRAVINSKY spent hours trying to get orchestras to play his music in strict tempo, and the technique still doesn't come as easily to English as to American orchestras. But the student players of the National Centre for Orchestral Studies made a good stab at the di-

vertimento, in which the rigours of neo-classicism are tempered by attractive smatches of Tchaikovsky.

The many solos demand to be played as neatly as similar things in Rossini, though not all of them were. But the players, clearly directed by Adrian Leaper, had the shape and spirit of the music and mostly survived a high degree of exposure fairly well.

More transparent, sometimes almost skeletal, sounds figure in Copland's *Clarinet Concerto*, written for Benny Goodman. Nicholas Cox was the soloist and knew well how to take the mood laid back Goodmanish solos and also had the sense of tempo and sharp brightness in upper registers that this brisk, optimistic, and occasionally innocently lyrical music calls for.

NCOS has its own composer in residence — Mark Anthony Turnage, whose *A Kind of Blue* formed the centrepiece of this concert. This is a tribute to Thelonious Monk, although blues allusions are well-absorbed in a sustained and well-sounding work which builds up very satisfactorily in an imposing middle section. It was perhaps the contrast with Stravinsky and Copland works that made me regret the prevalence of musical cross-hatching with many vaguely melodic voices of no strong character who would neither sing unobtrusively in the background nor emerge to make forceful statements.

Prokofiev's *First Concerto* reflects in its piano writing the composer's own formidable virtuosity, but seemed to present no technical problems to Piers Lane. This was another remarkably lucid and well-controlled performance, missing only the hectic brilliance that is also built into the music.

The orchestra rose to eloquence in the *Firebird Suite*,

the Lullaby particularly well led by first bassoon.

BLOOMSBURY

Robin Denselow

Ruby Turner

IF IT wasn't for her wicked grin, Ruby Turner could easily be mistaken for the leader of a gospel choir. A powerful and formidable looking young lady in her mid-twenties, she started singing in church before moving on to soul in the tradition of all the great soul heroines like Aretha Franklin.

The only difference is that Ruby is not from America, but from Handsworth, Birmingham, and was born in Jamaica. But instead of singing reggae or funk as one might expect, Ruby has immersed herself in the classic black American style of the Sixties and has combined matters further by using a six-piece white backing band who look like refugees from the pub rock circuit.

The R&B and soul fusion Ruby has developed as a result of all that may not be considered commercial or fashionable at the moment, but was gloriously varied, classy, and exhilarating. With the band pumping out a very English rhythm and blues style behind her, she powered her way through rolling good time songs, or showed off her fluent banding with a gutsy and stirring version of Van Morrison's *Wild Night*.

Later she slowed right down for a highly personal emotional treatment of a blues, *I'd Rather Go Blind*, that included a thrilling section where she sang unaccompanied, before speeding up for a slick, sensual, and again highly individual version of *I Heard It Through The Grapevine*.

Edward Greenfield on a new Soli recording of *Moses und Aron*

AMONG the dozens of records that Sir Georg Solti has made since he became music director of the Chicago Symphony Orchestra, the one I would choose first to illustrate him at full stretch, in warmth of expressiveness as well as brilliance, is his account of Mahler's Eighth Symphony. Recording so monumental a work in Vienna during a tour, even the Chicago orchestra was challenged, and the result is the more intensely charged.

So it is again with his latest Chicago recording, Schoenberg's unfinished opera, *Moses und Aron*, is equally challenging, particularly under the conditions in which it was recorded. The work was completed in 14 hours against the clock in conjunction with concert performances.

Yet Solti gives this masterly score a dynamism and warmth which sets it firmly in the grand romantic tradition. This is no mere intellectual exercise or static oratorio but a genuine drama (Decca 414 284-1, two discs).

With every performance the work has become clearer, less complicated and more expressive and romantic, says Solti, and so it is on the record. He also justifies his instruction to orchestra and chorus (Margaret Hillis's brilliant and responsive Chicago Symphony Chorus) to play and sing as if you were performing Brahms. Much of Schoenberg's music is very like Brahms with the wrong notes, and here Moses und Aron can almost be regarded as the opera which Brahms didn't write.

Neither the previous stereo versions of *Moses* remains in the catalogue — Michael Glens with Austrian forces very clear and crisp as though it is a chamber opera, or Pierre Boulez with BBC forces, more romantic but too much like a chamber performance which in its greater variety of mood and pace underlines the drama, finds an element of fantasy, and in places (as in the Golden Calf episode) a sparkle such as you would never expect from Schoenberg.

The *Moses* of Franz Matura may not be so specific in its sing speech as that of Günter Reich on the two previous versions — far less sing than speech — but the characterisation of an Old Testament patriarch is the more convincing. Philip Langridge is lighter, more lyrical as well more accurate than his predecessor with Boulez, Richard Cassilly.

With his splendidly firm and dark bass, Aage Haugen makes his mark in the small role of the Priest. Barbara Bonney is excellent too as the Young Girl. Otherwise the urgency and commitment of the large chorus — with voices balanced imaginatively by the engineers — heighten the drama — matches the virtuoso playing of the orchestra, and I am now firmly convinced that the question-mark ending, "O God, have mercy on us," is the most powerful conclusion there is no feeling of an unfinished work.

After the epic qualities of the Schoenberg, the contrast with the other modern opera issued this month by Decca,

Stravinsky's *The Rake's Progress*, is all the sharper (411 644-1 three LPs, 411 644-2 two CDs). Riccardo Chailly draws from the London Sinfonietta, playing of a clarity and brightness which sets the piece apart, a chamber scale without reducing the power of this elaborately neo-classical piece that was so cunningly based on Mozartian models by its librettists, E. U. Auden and Chester Kallman.

Philip Langridge is again excellent as the Rake himself, very moving when Tom is afflicted with madness, but he and the others in a strong cast are recorded with less immediacy than the orchestra which reduces the sharpness. Samuel Ramey as Nick, Stafford Dean as Trulova, and Sarah Walker as Baba the Turk still sound well, but Kathryn Pope's soprano as Catherine is too soft grained for Anne Charnage, as the idea is of getting the veteran Astrid Varnay to sing Mother Goose, that too detracts from the bite this piece needs.

As one of the issues celebrating Sir Michael Tippett's 80th birthday, Philips has restored to the catalogue (and not before time) its set of *The Knot Garden* with the original Covent Garden cast conducted by Sir Colin Davis (412 707-1, two LPs). Though this is a Garden-cast conducted by Sir speed and immediacy of the piece make it particularly suitable for hearing on record. The attractive new format has notes, synopsis and libretto incorporated in the two-disc folder.

Concert dates

Ozawa/New Japan Philharmonic (Barbican, 10.15pm). Japanese orchestras are visitors, and here the New Japan Philharmonic is joined by a Japanese conductor who more than anyone has established himself as an international figure. Seiji Ozawa presents not only Beethoven (Leonora no 3) and Tchaikovsky (the *Pathétique* Symphony), but the best known works of Toru Takemitsu.

Musica Antiqua, Colonel Reinhard Goebel (Wigmore Hall, tomorrow, 7.30pm). Thanks to the Early Music Network, this most distinguished of German groups, specialising in authentic performance is giving a full tour of Britain, of which this is the first concert. Composers include Krieger, Schicht and Biber, as well as Bach and Handel.

Howard London Sinfonietta (St John's, tomorrow, 7.30pm). More Takemitsu, Rain Spell, begins this concert in the Sinfonietta's current survey of the last 30 years of new music. Wilson Johnson Burnside Leona Ensemble (Wigmore Hall, Friday, 7.30pm). A distinguished band of young musicians headed by the baritone, David Wilson-Johnson, his come together to present a survey of the music of Howard Spradling, including several new works.

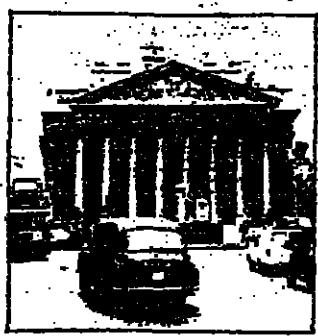
Ledger, ECO Garcia Johnson (Barbican, Sunday, 7.30pm). The rising star to look out for is Emma Johnson, the young clarinetist who became the BBC's Young Musician of the Year in 1982, here playing the Mozart Clarinet Concerto.

THE GUARDIAN

14th February 1985

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Will Sir Nicholas Goodison become the City's gamekeeper—albeit reluctantly?



NOTEBOOK

Edited by
Hamish McRae

THE HUNT for someone— dubbed "superman"—to chair the new Securities and Investments Board has proved so extraordinarily difficult that the City may end up choosing Sir Nicholas Goodison, the chairman of

the Stock Exchange, to do the job.

Sir Nicholas would hardly want the job and would probably regard it as something of a bed of nails. But the City elders, who have been searching for suitable candidates, appreciate that the City has to supply someone of the highest integrity and prestige if it is to retain the principle of self-regulation. It has to be a practitioner, but with a regulator's instincts, and there are very few of those about.

The final choice is still probably a couple of weeks off. Technically it is made by the Secretary of State, Mr Norman Tebbit, with the approval of the Governor of the Bank of England. (The other board members are appointed the other way round—made by the Bank with the approval of the DTI.) In practice both the DTI and the Bank have a veto on everyone.

But this joint responsibility means that the choice has to be defended in Parlia-

ment. Ideally, superman should not be entirely a City figure. A former Cabinet minister with City experience would be ideal, but the obvious such candidate, Sir John Nott, has just accepted the chairmanship of Lazard's.

The City elders have looked at the legal profession, mindful of the extraordinary success of Lord Shawcross made of the Takeover Panel. But apparently there are no suitable candidates there.

There are a number of people who are generally recognised to be able to do the job well—people like Martin Jacobson of Kleinwort, or Sir Jim Ball, former head of the London Business School, now chairman of Legal and General, or perhaps Ian Hay Davison, now half way through his job at Lloyd's. But this sort of person generally perceives himself as a practitioner rather than a regulator or administrator. Some other top City figures would rule themselves out because they do

not at the end of the day, believe in self-regulation.

And that is the core of the problem. The City has to find an inspired regulator; but because it has only a limited tradition of regulation, there is no obvious training ground which has delivered a selection of likely candidates.

The more you march round this particular block, the more you come back to the one body which has a long and successful tradition of investor protection, the Stock Exchange. Had it not blotted its copybook by its absurd opposition to what it would now recognise as the very sensible views of the Office of Fair Trading, it would be the obvious recruiting ground. And of course who better than its intelligent, sensitive, if somewhat proudly, chairman?

But the Stock Exchange's record with the OFT is a powerful objection. We will learn in the next few weeks whether this particular band

of poachers will indeed provide the gamekeeper.

Wrong total

MOST PEOPLE think of Tootal as makers of rather styleless men's ties, but the stereotype, as so often, is quite unfair. After a miserable five years with profits last year only just surpassing those of 1979 and after a big dip in between, Tootal has emerged as a much slimmer and more competitive animal.

Now, its activities range from textiles to clothing, and even recycled plastics. It is a group which has, so to speak, come through the fire of the British textile recession. Is it to be kept up by a foreign predator?

The short answer would surely be not at this price. Prospective profits of something like £20 million should at the very least put a higher price tag on the group. But in the current

frosty climate, companies seem prepared frequently to up the price tag. We will see.

Meanwhile, Tootal's new management does have considerable credibility and as things stand it should clearly be able to use some of this to mount a credible defence.

Missed chance

NOW that the authorities have missed the window last week to get interest rates down a bit, they will have to wait until there is some help from the foreign exchanges.

The money figures yesterday would still be consistent with a modest fall in rates: at most 1 per cent, more likely the usual ½ per cent.

By rights, if Barclays were applying its formula for fixing base rates, it would already have cut them now. In fact the banks will probably wait for an indication by the authorities that rates should come down, which can only

be given when sterling seems a little stronger.

As far as the figures themselves are concerned, most people will probably worry about the very sharp rise in bank lending. This is a bit silly, because part of that rise is associated with the speculation against sterling encouraged by the authorities earlier in January. Traders will have been leading and lagging payments, and banks will have been borrowing sterling to sell it across the exchanges. Some of this might be unwound in February.

In fact much more worrying is the continued double-digit rise in the broadest money measure, M2. There is no official target for this, but given all the changes taking place in our monetary system it probably gives a better reading of the underlying growth of money supply in the country than the narrower measures.

Put it this way. Anyone who in recent months focused on the official mea-

Go east!

THE RUSSIANS are clearly interested in building up an indigenous home computer industry, and Sinclair Research is obviously in advanced talks.

Mr Jan Tyska, its Eastern European manager, told a press conference yesterday, on his return from a Moscow trade exhibition, that the company was in talks with officials interested in setting up computer plants in Eastern Europe, especially Czechoslovakia, Poland and the USSR. Sinclair, if picked for a collaborative venture, would supply the components or partly built machines.

Australian group makes 70p cash bid

Tootal rejects £124 m offer from Entrad

By Geoffrey Gibbs

Tootal Group, the Manchester-based textiles and clothing manufacturer, has rejected a £124 million takeover bid from the Australian Entrad Corporation.

Entrad, which claims to be Australia's largest clothing and textiles concern, has gone directly to Tootal shareholders with a cash offer of 70p a share after failing to secure the recommendation of the Tootal directors for a proposed takeover.

Tootal shares surged to a new peak on the stock market as the Tootal chairman, Mr Alan Wagstaff, gave a firm thumbs down to the offer.

A bid of 15p lifted the price to 70p on hopes that the Entrad offer might tempt a rival bidder out into the open. At that level Tootal is valued at around £140 million.

Through their financial advisers at Morgan Grenfell, the Tootal directors yesterday advised shareholders to take no action in respect of what they say is a "materially inadequate" offer. They intend to write to shareholders in more

detail once they have had the chance of digesting the Entrad offer document. December, which last summer paid £21 million to acquire Tootal's 50 per cent stake in the Sydney textiles group Bradmill Industries — is making its bid from the platform of 57p per share.

It first emerged as a shareholder in Tootal last August. But after increasing its stake to just over 7 per cent the Australian company subsequently began reducing its investment in a number of well-publicised disposals that the Tootal directors maintain were designed to depress the share price prior to the launch of a full bid.

Inconclusive merger talks took place in December at which a price of 65p was put forward before the Entrad board approached Tootal with increased terms last week.

The offer comes at a time of strong improvement in Tootal's fortunes. The group, which with its associates, employs a total of 19,000 people worldwide, 7,000 of them in the UK, boosted profits from £4.7 million to £8.26 million during the six months to last July.

and has already forecast an improvement for the year as a whole. Some analysts are talking of a full year surplus of £22 million compared with £17.2 million last time.

Entrad said yesterday that the acquisition of Tootal would create a clothing and textile group with approved geographic and product balance. It believes that Tootal's operations would benefit from Entrad's "entrepreneurial methods" and marketing expertise and from its strong base in the expanding markets in the Pacific basin.

Entrad's clothing and textile operations are currently producing annual sales of some £270 million compared with Tootal's 1983 turnover of £387 million. But the group also has interests in tyres and field catering services in Australia and oil and gas reserves in Africa.

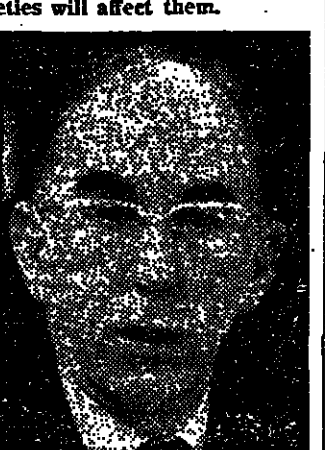
One possible "white knight" candidate last night was Herbert Walden, which, as a rival to Entrad's takeover aspirations, The Vantona V.I. yella finance director Mr John Ashton said, his group would not be interested in making a bid for Tootal.

Building society merger is off

By Margaret Dibben

A MIDLANDS building society merger agreed just a month ago has been abandoned. The boards of the Coventry Building Society and the Heart of England have both decided that the resources and time needed to bring the two societies together could be better used to their own advantage.

At the largest building society merger, staff at the Alliance and Leicester will be given details this morning of how combining the two societies will affect them.



Walden — "too much time"

The merger between the Alliance and Leicester, bringing them into fifth ranking, has been delayed by a month while the two sides sort out the logistics.

The chief general manager of the Heart of England, who is also chairman of the Building Societies Association, Mr Herbert Walden, said yesterday that they had not gone very far along the road of detailed discussions before they announced the merger. He added: "When we did we found that we were going to use far too much time and resources in dealing with integration."

The offering and compared BTR's effective offer price of 21p with the 14p price that Dunlop intended for the 800 million new shares it plans to issue to refinance the company. The Takeover Panel had already ruled that a similar comparison in the BTR offer document "departed from normal practice" and was neither "appropriate or helpful."

Chastened but undeterred, BTR altered its wording but made the same point in another statement last night. BTR also demanded to know why Dunlop's chair-

saying it was highly confident that it could provide the finance—£2 billion—to finance the holding to 51 per cent through a tender offer. The company's four days after Phillips arranged a truce with another predator, Mesa Partners.

Mr Icahn's tactics hinge on the Phillips reorganisation plans, which he says value each share at only £42. He says he will drop his bid if Phillips raises this to the \$55 he is offering. He dismissed

Volcker warns of financial crisis

From Alex Brummer

The Federal Reserve chairman, Mr Paul Volcker, warned Congress yesterday that the accumulation of foreign debt by the United States could, if it continued, potentially trigger an inflationary financial crisis.

Mr Volcker was testifying before the Joint Economic Committee on the 1985 Economic Report of the President, in which President Reagan criticises the Federal Reserve's handling of monetary policy. Mr Reagan charged that a reduction in monetary growth in the latter part of 1984 "contributed to the temporary slowing of economic growth in the year."

Mr Reagan told Congress that the Administration "re-affirms our support for a

sound monetary policy that contributes to strong steady economic growth and price stability." In his own testimony Mr Volcker rejected closer Administration control over monetary policy saying he was "not enthusiastic" about proposals to make the US Treasury Secretary an ex-officio member of the Federal Reserve Board.

Mr Volcker's warnings of a potential debt time bomb in the United States came as he was being questioned on the kind of deficit reduction would be required to reduce US interest rates. The Federal Reserve chairman repeated his assertion that it would require a cut of at least \$50 billion in the US government's borrowing requirement to lower real interest rates by around one point from their current levels.

The Fed chairman said the rate of speed with which the US is making the transition

from a creditor to a debtor nation "raises enough alarm bells" for people to be worried. At some point Mr Volcker said, the debts could get large enough to undermine confidence simply by their magnitude. If that happened a crisis would be at hand.

As foreign funds have been drawn into the US the value of the dollar has surged on the foreign exchange markets. However, the view within the Council of Economic Advisers, which is currently headed by Mr William Niskanen, is that the strong dollar has in fact been good overall to the American economy. While certain declining industries and agriculture have suffered, the report states, "in many respects the dollar's rise in value has been beneficial."

The report argues that the strong dollar has stimulated production and investment in

Town Centre takes hefty loss as Stylo shares drop sharply

By Geoffrey Gibbs

Town Centre Securities, the Leeds-based property group headed by the Stylo chairman, Mr Arnold Ziff, is showing a hefty paper loss on its recent investments in Stylo following a sharp fall in the company's share price yesterday.

Town Centre has been a heavy buyer of Stylo shares over the last few days in the wake of the takeover offer for the footwear retailing concern.

British Land, which has a 4.25 per cent voting stake in Stylo, has been offering up to 185p a share in an effort to

lift its voting stake to 29.9 per cent — 50.9 per cent of the total shares in issue. The offer was fiercely resisted by Mr Ziff and the Stylo board.

Town Centre's recent purchases — at prices up to 188p a share — have brought in a total of two million shares, more than doubling its previous stake in the business.

On the Stock Market the Stylo share price slumped 17p to 188p as British Land's financial advisers totted up acceptances of the tender which closed yesterday afternoon.

Mr Ziff, who has personally bought 75,000 shares in the

past few days, was last night unperturbed by the fall in the Stylo share price.

"In the short term, Town Centre shareholders can't possibly be happy. But please don't judge me on one day. I think it's an excellent investment for Town Centre. I said that people should not sell at 185p but buy and I have put my money where my mouth is."

He said the investment was seen as an indirect way into the high street. "And I can't buy first-class properties in the high street at half their valuation."

Second BTR public warning

By James Ertichman

BTR, the industrial combine fighting to acquire Dunlop, received a second public warning about its tactics from the Takeover Panel yesterday.

The Panel, spurred by a complaint from Dunlop, forced BTR to withdraw a newspaper advertisement which claimed "BTR thinks that your shares are worth more than Dunlop's."

The offending ad compared BTR's effective offer price of

21p with the 14p price that Dunlop intended for the 800 million new shares it plans to issue to refinance the company. The Takeover Panel had already ruled that a similar comparison in the BTR offer document "departed from normal practice" and was neither "appropriate or helpful."

Chastened but undeterred, BTR altered its wording but made the same point in another statement last night. BTR also demanded to know why Dunlop's chair-

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Mr Icahn's tactics hinge on the Phillips reorganisation plans, which he says value each share at only £42. He says he will drop his bid if Phillips raises this to the \$55 he is offering. He dismissed

man Sir Michael Edwards, has said so far failed to make profit indications for 1984 and 1985. The war of words continued when Sir Michael said he would not be drawn into revealing "strategic information."

But ripostes of this kind seldom shed any real light on the contours of the battle. It is still not clear whether Dunlop can remove BTR's veto grip on its reconstruction by rejigging the resolutions to make BTR's 27.9 per cent preference shareholding powerless.

THE Illustrated London News is being sold to Mr James Sherwood's Sea Containers company by International Thomson. The magazine has a valuable library of historic engravings dating back to its Victorian foundation, but a declining circulation of around 70,000.

NIGERIA has adopted a two-tier oil pricing system, apparently to encourage customers to take more of its overstocked light crude, industry sources said yesterday. The sources said Nigeria had circulated a contract sales price list and another list for customers ready to buy a minimum daily quantity of a set package of crudes. The new prices took effect from February 1.

Collapse in house building

By David Simpson

The level of new house building in the UK collapsed last year, with the recovery in the private sector witnessed in 1983 petering out, and the number of new council houses under construction falling to yet another post-war low.

The total number of new starts in 1984 was 190,400 dwellings, against 214,500 the previous year, the Department of the Environment reported yesterday. These figures compare with estimates of at least 300,000 new houses a year if the existing standard of the nation's housing stock is to be no more than maintained.

The reasons for the current year's house building collapse, which historically has tended to lead the country out of any period of recession, are even more depressing than last year's figures.

New building in the public sector is destined to decline, with even greater degree, with the further restrictions on local authority capital spending, while the rapid rise in interest rates and in mortgage rates, has led forecasters to suggest that the number of private houses to be built this year could fall by 10 per cent.

On the housing front, building began on only 38,200 council houses last year, 9,000 less than in 1983 and less than a quarter as many as were built annually a decade ago.

The brief revival in the private sector, experienced in the first half of 1983, also came to an abrupt end, and only 152,100 private housing starts were made in 1984, more than 15,000 fewer than in the preceding year.

Save and Prosper quits Link network

By Margaret Dibben

Save and Prosper, a pulling out of the Link group, a consortium of 21 group, which shared a network of cash dispensers. Although a founder member of Link, Save and Prosper will instead go into an arrangement with Royal Bank of Scotland and Citibank & Glyns starting later this year.

Save and Prosper has also entered into an agreement with National Giro, which is a Link member, to allow its Visa card to be used in the Giro cash machines soon to appear at post offices. This arrangement is planned to begin in about a year's time.

Instead of installing its own ATMs, Save and Prosper will pay a commercial fee to use the machines of other financial institutions through the Visa card global ATM network. Negotiations are continuing with other banks to use the machines, including Standard

Chartered, Barclays and Trustee Savings Banks.

Mr Ian Lindsay of Save and Prosper said yesterday that the company had taken the view that over the next three or four years, there will be such a large number of cash machines installed by various financial institutions that there will be too many ATMs chasing too few transactions. The only benefit, he said, will be to ATM suppliers.

As a result, Save and Prosper reviewed its policy just before Christmas and pulled out of the Link group at the end of the year. However, Save and Prosper still supports the Link organisation which will, Mr Lindsay forecasts, become a "driving force."

Members of Link include Abbey National Building Society, Girobank, Coop Bank, Nationwide Building Society, American Express, Western Trust, and Yorkshire Building Society.

Maxwell into cheques

By Maggie Brown

Robert Maxwell's British Printing & Communications Corporation is expanding into printing cheque books and glossy calendars through the purchase of Thomas Fothergill & Son, a Nottingham printer, which employs 510 people.

BPCC, Britain's leading colour printing company, is buying the factory and assets, valued at £5 million, for an estimated £175,000 sq ft hypermarket, for a sum in excess of £20 million.

The price was driven up by competition between Savacentre and Asda who signed Mr Maxwell paid Reed International £15 million for Odhams, colour grave printers, then closed it down.

prints a wide range of labels for the food, drinks and packaging industries, an area in which it overlaps with BPCC. However, BPCC has given undertakings on job security, though the areas Fothergill operates in are tough and competitive.

BPCC is understood to have sold its redundant Odhams printing works site at Watford, complete with planning permission for a 175,000 sq ft hypermarket, for a sum in excess of £20 million.

The price was driven up by competition between Savacentre and Asda who signed Mr Maxwell paid Reed International £15 million for Odhams, colour grave printers, then closed it down.

Coz — "too optimistic"

The Coventry and Heart of England revealed the intended merger at an early stage because, said Mr Walden, "we have to involve so many people in the detailed discussions."

News of the Alliance and Leicester tie up leaked out before the societies were prepared to make the news known leading to a rushed statement last November. Mr Roy Cox, chief general manager of the Alliance and Leicester, said the Building Societies Association said about the delay until August: "We were rather optimistic in our initial time table."

Japan launches Chinese drive

From Robert Whymant

in Tokyo

With their eyes set on the next decade, Japan's major motor manufacturers are hastening to establish a presence in China. Partly it's the pack instinct, partly the result of long term strategy that eschews quick profits, partly a conviction that Japan should profit from its cultural and geographical advantage over Western competitors.

In recent months there has been a flood of agreements for Sino-Japanese joint production or assembly arrangements, and not a few have concerned the

automotive industry. The largest contract of its kind was announced last week by Isuzu Motors Ltd., a \$295 million deal involving the export of trucks and the transfer to China of Japanese truck technology.

This pattern of exporting vehicles while supplying technology at the same time appears to have found favour, with both Japanese firms and their Chinese partners. Last year Mitsubishi Motor Corporation entered into such a deal to make trucks in China. Daihatsu Motor Company also signed a technical assistance contract to produce light commercial vans and pickups with Tianjin Automobile Industry,

Hino Motors Ltd is another truck maker now negotiating a contract that will combine vehicle exports with technology transfer.

Nissan Diesel Motor Company, Japan's leading truck maker, is expected to announce a joint venture with a Chinese enterprise to produce 20,000 large trucks a year in Hubei province.

Japan's largest vehicle maker, Toyota, is reported to have been asked to help renovate the first automobile factory in Changchun in north-east China, but the company's spokesmen are keeping their cards close to their chest. Mazda Motor Corporation also says it has received "several

approaches for joint ventures" from China, and is keenly interested in gaining a foothold.

"At the moment, earnings are low in China, but we see China as a major market in the future," says Moriaki Watanabe, Mazda's chairman.

The Japanese are not expecting to make a quick fortune, but feel they'd better get in on the ground floor. Nissan Motor Corporation president Takashi Ishihara, noting the great potential of the Chinese market for car demand, said in his new year message that Nissan had opened a Peking office and formed a China division "to enable us to respond quickly to the rapid changes in the Chinese market."

Thames Water may fight rates edict

By Michael Smith

Thames Water Authority chairman, Roy Watts, may force the Government to justify the threatened sharp increases in water rates in the courts.

The courtroom test of government financial treatment of the nationalised industries will emerge if, as expected, the Government is forced to direct Thames Water to hand over surplus cash proceeds generated by the new cash disciplines.

Thames Water is likely to challenge any Department of the Environment order in the courts, offering the prospect of a widespread public scrutiny over the increasing use of public corporations as vehicles for back-door tax-raising.

Government embarrassment over the Thames Water rates row is likely to be compounded tomorrow in the Commons debate on water charges. The Government is imposing a three-line whip on MPs because of fears that some of the

120 Tories in the Thames Water region will vote against the Government or at least abstain.

Cash targets set by the Government will force Thames Water to raise its charges by at least 10 per cent in April, well above the 3 per cent rise which the Authority wanted to impose. And the Authority is also cutting its capital investment programme some 10 per cent below earlier plans.

Mr Watts has now written to all 148 MPs in the Thames Water region arguing that the Government targets, which are based on controversial inflation accounting procedures, are "wrong in principle and wrong in application." He says the targets will generate excessive cash surpluses for Thames and will also be inflationary.

Thames is fully supported by the seven constituent consultative committees for the region, who have complained to MPs that the Government is ignoring their point of view.

Leader: page 10.

NATIONAL
Girobank

Deposit Accounts

National Girobank announces

that with effect from

close of business

6th February 1985

The rate of interest

payable on deposit accounts

will be 11% per annum

10 Milk Street LONDON EC2V 8JH

Banro to fight £4.3m bid from CHI

By Tony May

The 1985 takeover battle got underway yesterday when the under-conglomerate, CHI, bid £4.3 million for Banro. The takeover bid for CHI is the first in the company's history. CHI, a London-listed company, has a turnover of £1.1 million and a profit of £100,000. It is a subsidiary of the parent company, CHI plc, which is a public company. CHI plc is a holding company with a turnover of £1.1 million and a profit of £100,000. CHI plc is a subsidiary of the parent company, CHI plc, which is a public company.

Mr. Tim Healey, chairman of CHI, said the bid was a "significant improvement" on the company's previous performance. He said the bid was a "significant improvement" on the company's previous performance. He said the bid was a "significant improvement" on the company's previous performance. He said the bid was a "significant improvement" on the company's previous performance. He said the bid was a "significant improvement" on the company's previous performance.

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Both sides obviously have more shots in the lockers but for the moment the last word belongs to CHI which tells Banro employees that "in an industrial climate where efficiency and the pursuit of profitability are paramount, the interests of employees can best be safeguarded by being part of a successful and expanding group and that the success of the enterprise should be reflected in fair reward at all levels."



Edward Rose and Tim Healey... more shots in lockers

COMPANY BRIEFING

Unitech interim climbs to £7m

Shares of Unitech dropped 23p to 265p after the group unveiled its interim profit rise from £5.3 million to £7 million, the bottom end of City expectations. This 32 per cent rise came on sales up 46 per cent to £72.5 million with all the improvement coming from electronic components. This business is usually regarded as cyclical and the market generally is looking for a downturn some time later this year. The group disagrees and says that anyway it is now strong in other areas—it is the biggest power supplies group in Europe, has manufacturing interests and an industrial contract.

Mr. Peter Curry, the chairman, says that the manufacturing companies did well but the hand-held computer terminal business, Dataport, and the Pirella Resin operations (which the board would like to sell) offset this with losses.

Mr. Curry says that orders are slower coming in and sales continue to slow but a further rise in profits can be expected in the second half. The interim is up from 1.09p to 1.96p.

City analysts agree with the profits contention but feel that the best of the ride is over, until the next components boom.

Anyway, and have brought down profit estimates by £1 million to about £18.5 million for the full year, compared with £18.1 million last time.

Record Newman

Newman-Tanks, the home furniture manufacturer, has joined up its numerous subsidiaries to such good effect that it is bent on repeating the process overseas. Around £5.5 million is being raised to finance

Infocom goes to Saatchi

THE Saatchi & Saatchi empire is growing. It has acquired Infocom, "one of Britain's leading business communication groups" and also the biggest UK advertiser of corporate sales conferences and presentations. Its clients include 20 of the top 50 UK companies.

Infocom is 86 per cent owned by its management and 14 per cent by Kleinfelder, Benson Development Fund. Saatchi is paying £1.18 million cash for the group, of which Kleinfelder gets £600,000. The managers are also to share more cash between them if Infocom's assets prove to have been not less than £900,000 at January 31. More will follow according to profit levels.

Further acquisitions following the success with Monarch Hardware in the United States. Only Rothley Brass is still unprofitable because of the competition from lower-cost imports. The loss was, however, readily absorbed in the record group pre-tax profit of £4.1 million registered in the year to October 31, which compared with £3.5 million in the previous 12 months. Turnover rose 28 million against a £83 million for the extended period.

Although comparison is difficult, the profit increase of around half represents a fair performance and shows that the new gas engineering operation has been successfully integrated.

Monarch was bought for a maximum of £4.5 million just over two years ago and because of its excellent performance, with profit around £700,000 even at lower dollar exchange rates, an extra payment of £1.9 million within the maximum has become due. In addition, capital spending has been running at £1.5 million a year and another £2.1 million of spending is planned.

The final dividend is being raised to 3.75p net a share, making 5.5p net a share for the year, an increase of 6 per cent. Cover is improved after a year in earnings to 11.3p from 9.8p for the longer period. The rights issue is of two new shares at 80p a share for every seven held. Although



Infocom made profits of £423,000 in the year to August and a 78 per cent rise forecast. The chairman, Henry Howard, and the managing director, Ian Berry, with five other board members, are signing long-term contracts.

debt is not particularly high, the aim of enlarging the US operations, partly through higher exports from the home base, coupled with the intention to make more acquisitions in Europe means that additional funds are desirable. At 102p, the shares yield almost 8 per cent.

Bluemel losses cut

Bluemel Bros, the cycle and accessory group, yesterday reported reduced pre-tax losses of £270,000 on turnover of £4.24 million, compared with £568,815 of losses on sales of £3.94 million.

The company has just emerged from a year of change, when it strengthened its cycle business through buying the Saracen Group, a leading producer of high quality touring bicycles, with plans for a range of new bikes for 1985. It also bought the Ron Kitchin Wholesale and cycle accessory group, which now concentrates on introducing new product lines.

The aim is to bring in new products to replace old unprofitable cycles, and the company is now promising to give early attention to restoring the dividend, provided the rebuilding progress continues as planned. The company is hoping to do a

Gradual gains

ML Holdings, the bombing systems and railway signalling engineer, is gaining height only gradually as its JP 233 aircraft denial weapon reaches volume production. Compared with the second half of the previous year, the results for the six months to September 30 might seem disappointing, but the vagaries of defence payments probably mean that returns are improving. Sales, largely derived from deliveries of equipment for the Tornado aircraft, expanded to £14.9 million, from £12.3 million. There are hopes of higher export sales before long and the railway division is now back on a growth track both at home in more distant markets. Electronic component division is a fast-growing line, but the foundry business has slipped back after a better period for piano frame and other sales last year.

Pre-tax profit improved to £223,000, from £365,000 and on past evidence well over twice as much will accrue in the second half. The chairman, Mr. Ralph Price, confirms that the enlarged capacity in M.L. Aviation has been more fully utilised. The incidence of the reduction in the government's share of the dividend is liable to be a drag, so it is just as well that order books are full in most sections.

The interim dividend stays at 2p net a share after an anticipatory rise, the shares fell back to 352p.

Shipping losses

On turnover up from £1.8 million to £2.3 million the Reardon Smith Line has seen a profit of £468,000 (including dividend from the sale of vessels) turn into a loss of £2 million for the half year to September.

The latest word on the agreement reached on charter-in-tonnage is that estimated losses allocated to the memorandum account for the year to March 31 amount to £3.9 million.

There has been some improvement during the half year and this is reflected in the trading position. But the board underlines that it requires substantially better freight rates in the dry cargo market before it can cover its operating and capital costs.

The board hopes that the upturn in the world trade will improve and lift freight rates.

HENRY Wigfall now estimates that the miners' strike and higher interest rates will turn last year's profit of £25 million into a loss of £75 million. He says that the company will have lost £400,000. Borrowings are now "excessive" and the board of the electrical goods retailer wants to raise £236 million through a one-for-two rights issue of preference stock. A four-point recovery plan includes more superstores, a concentration on cash and credit business and modernisation.

Offer for ESO

East of Scotland Onshore, the specialist investment fund, has floated an offer of 10 million shares at 10p each. The offer was just about to develop just over three years ago has received a predatory bid from Industrial Finance and Investment, an Unlisted Securities Market company. Although the bid will be at a premium to the book value of ESO's assets, which is only a few pence more than the 6p issue price of the shares, it is being resisted.

While a large proportion of the ESO portfolio is accounted for by the state in the USM-listed Oilfield Inspection Services, whose shares are at a low ebb, the directors believe that the unquoted holdings are of strategic and rising value. They also believe that it is wrong time to sell them as the bidder intends as an alternative fund raising method to a rights issue.

Industrial Finance and Investment has indicated that unless the ESO board recommends its bid it will proceed on less favourable terms than those put forward for approval. Until all cards are on the table, shareholders are probably well-advised to take no action.

HOWARD Shuttering raised its pre-tax profits from £582,000 to £635,000 in the half year to October 31 and its interim dividend is up from 0.67p to 0.7p. The development company has again contributed over half the group's turnover and the bulk of profits.

ROWLAND Gaunt increased its profits from £42,000 to £228,000 in the year to October 31 on sales up from £5 million to £8.5 million. The board says it has the capital and management resources to continue and extend its current trading momentum.

NOVA (Jersey) Knit reports an adjustment in inter-company accounts which has reduced its trading profits reported for the half year to September to £68,000 and has turned a pre-tax profit of £52,000 into a loss of £255,000. REA Holdings proposes to raise £2.3 million throughout a rights issue.

GARVAGH Securities is bidding £4.32 million for Charles Hurst. The terms are 200p cash a share and holders of 29.2 per cent of the equity irrevocably agreed to accept.

PYKE Holdings has exchanged contracts to put Bransby's company recently formed to takeover two companies. The terms are £2 million in shares. Bransby's main business is processing and selling both imported pork and bacon.

FT Ordinary Share Index up 14.1 at 924. FT-SE 100 Index up 20.9 at 1289.1. Pound: \$1.1115; DM 3.58; Fr 10.95. Gold: \$302.25. Account: January 28 to February 8. FT All Share Index up 7.72 at 617.87. Sterling Index 71.4 (1975-100). 358.5 (December) up 4.6 per cent on year.

Edited by Tony May

Equities lifted by interest on Wall Street

THE MARKETS

AN unexpected 12-point recovery on Wall Street and another flurry of American buyers taking advantage of the cheap pound helped stock markets stage a sharp advance yesterday. The December money-supply indications proved to be at the lower end of most market expectations, but not good enough to spark off the hoped-for cut in base rates. Nevertheless government stocks had a good session, closing with gains to five-eighths, enabling the Government Broker to sell-out the long "tap" 104 per cent convertible 1999 and the 24 per cent index-linked 2020 stock issued last Friday week.

Equities were given an additional boost by another spate of takeovers, which fuelled demand for other speculative favourites. Leading shares were largely neglected for most of the session, but put on late spurt as the Americans moved in.

ICI were to the fore ahead of the results due on February 28. The shares closed 25p higher at 884p. Imperial Group, reporting on St Valentine's Day, were also favoured on hopes of some new contracts. The sale of the Howard Johnson subsidiary. The shares ended 10p firmer at 206p. Other rises among the FT "top thirty" ranged between 4p and 15p. Stores and foods were back in demand. Properties reflected content on residential values. Engineers attracted selective support, and financials such as money brokers and merchant banks did well.

Textiles received a boost from the Extrud 70p offer for Total, which finished at 784p, up 15p, after touching 80p. Vantona, which is widely tipped to launch a counter-offer, rose 7p to 291p. Elsewhere on the bid front Banro jumped 18p to 82p, also well above terms from C.H. Industrials, 1p better at 60p. In more sombre mood Cytio relinquished 17p to 166p as the British Land tender offer looked doomed to failure. Oile had one of their best days for some time as spot prices firmed and US institutions bought. Gains stretched to well over 20p with Colorado exploring gains in demand. The EAT rose 10p to 378p after press comment, while ThornEMI rallied 15p to 442p. Lead-

ers up in a band of 3p to 7p included Grand Met, 298p, Hanson, 215p, Vickers, 239p, and Distillers 303p. British Telecom added 1p to 125p having touched 126p in immediate response to a broker's recommendation. Pilkington Bros. advanced 12p to 300p, and Fisons climbed 18p to 298p.

There was no shortage of speculative activity. Booter McConnell strengthened 14p to 268p in the hope of Dea Corp. coming back with a fresh bid. Others to rise on take-over hopes included Burns Anderson, 5p to 55p, Manders, 7p to 193p, Riley Leisure, 9p to 58p, Maynards 10p to 255p, Low Bonar, 10p to 290p, Media Technology, 11p to 150p, Meadow Farms, 29p to 358p, G. Rundle 7p to 155p, Birad, 43p to 86p, and IML 5p to 103p.

Turnover for February 4 was: Number of bargains 20,779; value £266.944 million. Main changes were: Stylo 168p, down 17p; ICI 864p, up 25p; Total 784p, up 15p; Imp. Gr. 206p, up 10p; Banro 82p, up 18p; Booker Mc 298p, up 14p; Falcon Res. 504p, up 37p; BP 555p, up 18p.

Paris: Share prices were marked up across a broad front in active trading. The market indicator was ahead 0.7 per cent at the end of business for the second day in a row. Investors were encouraged by the overnight gains on Wall Street.

Frankfurt: Shares stage a strong recovery in lively dealings as investors snapped up bargains created by Monday's sharp market decline. The Commerzbank index, which is calculated at mid-day still showed a decline of 3.8 points on the day at 1,135.4.

Tokyo: A skidding yen devalued advancing stock prices for the second day in a row. Nikkei Dow Jones index: 11,823.43 (11,891.08).

Hong Kong: Share prices generally slipped in quiet trading. Hang Seng index: 1,352.47 (1,365.22).

Money markets: Rates were on a see-saw throughout the day, reflecting the BB and flow of base rate cut possibilities. Views were still mixed at the close about the chance of an early reduction from the 10 per cent 14p base rate level, though the case for an immediate cut had been undermined by an unimpressive performance by sterling and a rising level of lending by the clearing banks. Rates rose sharply at first, retreated, then edged firmer again towards the finish.

COMMODITIES

Copper: Cash £1,270 per tonne; 3 months \$1,280 per tonne; Nov \$2,446 per tonne. Lead: Cash £9,905 per tonne; 3 months \$1,280 per tonne; Nov \$2,446 per tonne. Zinc: Cash £1,340 per tonne; 3 months \$1,280 per tonne; Nov \$2,446 per tonne. Tin: Cash £1,340 per tonne; 3 months \$1,280 per tonne; Nov \$2,446 per tonne.

Crude oil: Cash \$5.54 per barrel; 3 months \$5.54 per barrel; Nov \$5.54 per barrel. Gas: Cash \$1.27 per barrel; 3 months \$1.27 per barrel; Nov \$1.27 per barrel. Wheat: Cash \$1.27 per barrel; 3 months \$1.27 per barrel; Nov \$1.27 per barrel. Corn: Cash \$1.27 per barrel; 3 months \$1.27 per barrel; Nov \$1.27 per barrel.

Property

SA Mines

Insurance

Investment Trusts

Mining

New issues

Interest Rates

UK MONEY MARKETS %

INTERNATIONAL MONEY MARKETS %

US INTEREST RATES

FOREIGN EXCHANGES

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STERLING RATES

FORWARD RATES

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FOREIGN EXCHANGES

BBC-1

6.00 am Ceefax AM. 6.30 Breakfast Time. 9.0 Pages from Ceefax. 10.30 Play School. 10.50 Garbar. 11.15 Pages from Ceefax. 12.30 pm News After Noon. 12.57 Regional News. 1.0 Pebble Mill at One. 1.45 King Rollo. 1.50 Bric-à-brac. 2.0 Racing from Ascot. 3.25 Pages from Ceefax. 3.45 Regional News (except London and Scotland). 4.30 Play School. 4.10 The Puppy's New Adventures. 4.30 Jackanory. The BFG by Roald Dahl. 4.45 Captain Caveman. 4.55 John Craven's Newsworld. 5.0 Eureka. 5.30 The Railway Carriage Game. 5.58 Weather.

6.0 NEWS.

6.30 REGIONAL NEWS MAGAZINES.

6.55 STAR TREK: Amok Time. Leonard Nimoy as the intrepid Vulcan Spock — coming over all illogical and wanting to get married — while William Shatner cops the best man role in an ancient wedding ritual.

7.45 THE GOLDEN OLDIE PICTURE SHOW. Dave Lee Travis with more blast from the past image interpretations.

8.10 DALLAS: Odd Man Out. See it while you can. Michael Grade, cutting his nose off to spite his face, has spoken of spiking the 17 episodes leading up to where unscrupulous Thanes are to take over, so as to confuse and dismay viewers. But the rot has set in anyway. The new, smell-of-gas-faced Miss Ellis isn't a patch on Barbara Geddes. And plot recycling has spun wildly out of control — what with Jenna not merely jilting Bobby twice, but actually marrying the absurd Marchetta again...

9.0 NEWS: weather.

9.25 REAL LIVES: Hatfield Main. The miners' strike — as seen through the eyes of pit communities. Stainforth. Dunscoff. Thorne — and their colliery Hatfield Main. Award-winning producer Chris Culling spent three months filming both pickets and rebel scabs in the strike-hit Doncaster pit village.

10.10 SPORTSNIGHT: Alan Weeks with news of Karen Barber and Nicky Slater's opening performance in the afternoon Compulsory Dance section at Gothenburg. In Italy, Swiss Olympic downhill Champion Michela Figini goes for gold again in the Ladies' Giant Slalom.

10.55 THE EYES OF CHARLES SAND. Crazy 1972 TV melodrama — full of characters waving meat cleavers about, and panned by Henry Farrell of Whatever Happened To Baby Jane? notoriety. Peter Haskell plays the successful young entrepreneur gifted with second sight, flashing on visions of bodies behind walls, and sucked ineluctably into a weird murder mystery.

12.10 Weather: close.

Wales: 5.30 pm interval. 5.35-5.58 Wales Today. 5.59-6.00 News. 6.01-6.05 Wales Today. 6.06-6.10 News. 6.11-6.15 Wales Today. 6.16-6.20 News. 6.21-6.25 Wales Today. 6.26-6.30 News. 6.31-6.35 Wales Today. 6.36-6.40 News. 6.41-6.45 Wales Today. 6.46-6.50 News. 6.51-6.55 Wales Today. 6.56-6.59 News. 7.00-7.04 Wales Today. 7.05-7.09 News. 7.10-7.14 Wales Today. 7.15-7.19 News. 7.20-7.24 Wales Today. 7.25-7.29 News. 7.30-7.34 Wales Today. 7.35-7.39 News. 7.40-7.44 Wales Today. 7.45-7.49 News. 7.50-7.54 Wales Today. 7.55-7.59 News. 8.00-8.04 Wales Today. 8.05-8.09 News. 8.10-8.14 Wales Today. 8.15-8.19 News. 8.20-8.24 Wales Today. 8.25-8.29 News. 8.30-8.34 Wales Today. 8.35-8.39 News. 8.40-8.44 Wales Today. 8.45-8.49 News. 8.50-8.54 Wales Today. 8.55-8.59 News. 9.00-9.04 Wales Today. 9.05-9.09 News. 9.10-9.14 Wales Today. 9.15-9.19 News. 9.20-9.24 Wales Today. 9.25-9.29 News. 9.30-9.34 Wales Today. 9.35-9.39 News. 9.40-9.44 Wales Today. 9.45-9.49 News. 9.50-9.54 Wales Today. 9.55-9.59 News. 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Wales Today. 6.45-6.49 News. 6.50-6.54 Wales Today. 6.55-6.59 News. 7.00-7.04 Wales Today. 7.05-7.09 News. 7.10-7.14 Wales Today. 7.15-7.19 News. 7.20-7.24 Wales Today. 7.25-7.29 News. 7.30-7.34 Wales Today. 7.35-7.39 News. 7.40-7.44 Wales Today. 7.45-7.49 News. 7.50-7.54 Wales Today. 7.55-7.59 News. 8.00-8.04 Wales Today. 8.05-8.09 News. 8.10-8.14 Wales Today. 8.15-8.19 News. 8.20-8.24 Wales Today. 8.25-8.29 News. 8.30-8.34 Wales Today. 8.35-8.39 News. 8.40-8.44 Wales Today. 8.45-8.49 News. 8.50-8.54 Wales Today. 8.55-8.59 News. 9.00-9.04 Wales Today. 9.05-9.09 News. 9.10-9.14 Wales Today. 9.15-9.19 News. 9.20-9.24 Wales Today. 9.25-9.29 News. 9.30-9.34 Wales Today. 9.35-9.39 News. 9.40-9.44 Wales Today. 9.45-9.49 News. 9.50-9.54 Wales Today. 9.55-9.59 News. 10.00-10.04 Wales Today. 10.05-10.09 News. 10.10-10.14 Wales Today. 10.15-10.19 News. 10.20-10.24 Wales Today. 10.25-10.29 News. 10.30-10.34 Wales Today. 10.35-10.39 News. 10.40-10.44 Wales Today. 10.45-10.49 News. 10.50-10.54 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Vetting scheme to protect patients and save money

Clarke aims for 'white list' of safe drugs

By Andrew Veitch and Colin Brown

The Health Minister, Mr Kenneth Clarke, is planning a scheme for vetting drugs for safety, effectiveness and need to follow the limited drug list.

It will be launched soon after the limited drug list is introduced on April 1. It is understood that the scheme will be to draw up a comprehensive white list — as opposed to the forthcoming black list — of essential and proven remedies.

It is hoped that patients will be protected from outdated and ineffective medicine and that the Government will make substantial savings on the £2 billion a year drugs bill because the health service will pay only for white list drugs.

Firms who want to market new products, will have to apply in parallel to the Committee on Safety of Medicines, which assesses safety, and to a new committee which will decide, on the basis of efficacy and need, whether the NHS will pay for prescriptions, say the sources.

The scheme will require a change in the Medicines Act, which specifically debars the licensing authority from considering the comparative efficacy of drugs.

Mr Clarke has yet to commit

himself to making the new committee a statutory body like the CSM. However, medical sources say it is difficult to see how he could give a committee such power without bringing it under control of the Medicines Act.

Its first job will be to deal with additions to the initial list of drugs to be given to doctors, chemists and drug firms towards the end of this month. It is understood that the committee will have the power to vet existing as well as new drugs for efficacy and need. The first targets might be the 20 or more similar arthritis drugs.

The idea of paying for drugs on the basis of safety, efficacy and need has been proposed in the Department of Health by Dr Robert Mann, former vice president of the multinationals Pfizer and Reckitt and now a principal medical officer in the department's medicines division.

The health service could improve treatment, reduce the epidemic of drug induced disease and save money by paying only for the best drugs, he said in his recent book, *Modern Drug*.

A parliamentary Order putting the initial black list into effect will be tabled next month. This will enact regulations listing the drugs which will no longer be available on the NHS.

Bitterest of pills, page 11

Talks with Spain on the future of Gibraltar

Continued from page one

wishes of the people of Gibraltar.

In Geneva, Mr Moran said that the first meeting on sovereignty would be held in Madrid at the end of the year, and that the two ministers would be accompanied by two co-ordinators. These were named as Mr Michael Jenkins, the assistant undersecretary of state for Europe, and his Spanish counterpart, Mr Mariano Berdejo.

Mr Moran also said that the first working group, on aviation, would meet later this month, also in Madrid.

Yesterday's meeting took place in a conference centre provided by Geneva but separate from the United Nations, which has tended to favour Spain's claim to Gibraltar. The Brussels communiqué of November 27, 1982, committed Britain to discussing the issue of sovereignty with Spain, and

observers here are in no doubt that Sir Geoffrey has agreed to precisely this.

He said that the purpose of his annual meetings with Mr Moran would be to "discuss bilateral and international matters of mutual interest." He added: "I would expect sovereignty to be raised in the course of these meetings."

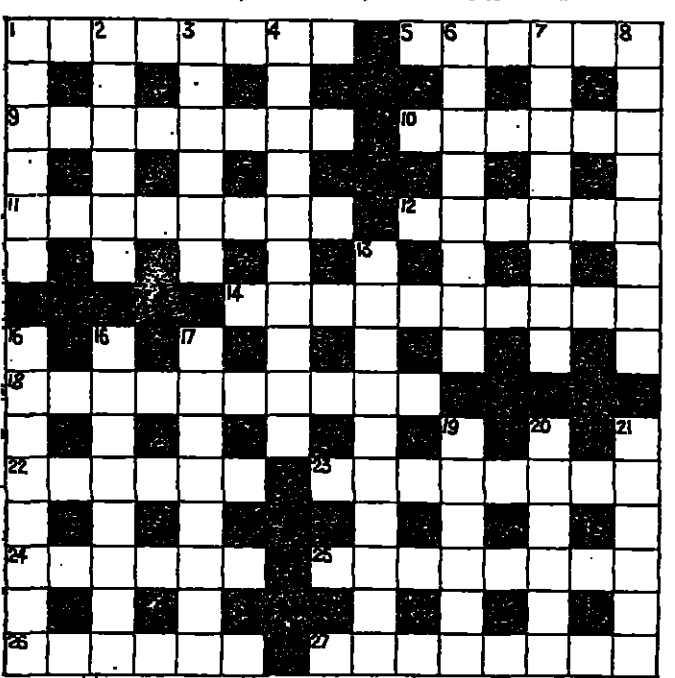
In spite of this, the outcome was welcomed by the Chief Minister of Gibraltar, Sir Joshua Hassan, who attended as a member of the British delegation. Sir Joshua described the meeting as "very positive, very relaxed," and insisted that no concrete decisions had been taken on sovereignty. "It has been constructive in every way," he said.

The Spanish Government, for its part, clearly assumes that a process has now begun which will eventually lead to a transfer of power from Britain to Spain.

GUARDIAN CROSSWORD 17,153

ARACURIA

SUBSIDIARY parts of the clues to 1 across, 9, 25, 15, 16, and 17 each consist of a series of definition-type clues to the stages in the process of changing the first name of the solution into the second part, one letter at a time; thus GUARDIAN could have clues to GEAR, DEAR, and DEAN, as well as to itself.



ACROSS
1 23, 15 medicine, potential mountain (8).
2 Silent about distance and time (6).
9 5 nobody, 11 12 warning (4, 4).
10 Box — chest not right, so to say? (6).
11 Finish counts when entertaining the French (8).
12 Depression, as opposed to passageway (6).
14 Prospect of meal with artist intended? (6, 4).
16 Distracted mind keeps away knowledge from Scots still asleep (10).
22 Go quickly and remove with fingers (3, 3).
23 Your cry of surprise and song of triumph, say, are ours (8).

DOWN
1 Threaten fellows with wit (6).
2 "I'll make a ghost of him who —" (Hamlet) — gives me the chance? (4, 2).
3 Skirt for the lame? (6).
4 20 to get followed like the mouse in Alice (4-3).
6 Worship at one half-dollar a go (8).
7 All with flu in consequence of breaking 5th commandment (8).
8 Recipe for health, wealth, wisdom, and spring flowers? (5-3).
13 Conduct burial and marriage for the TUC? (5-5).
15 John, John, fellow-socialist, twisted canvas shade, 5 amount (8).
16 Bleemish on portrait, 20, 20, 15 — word? (3-5).
17 Healthy 12, 23, completely started but not 11 (4, 4).
19 Blond, probably, and not backyard? (6).
20 Wish of French parent (6).
21 A French lesson, not on the conditional negative (6).

Solution tomorrow

Libya council frees four Britons

Continued from page one

ments quickly for their early return.

The families of the men do not appear over-impressed with the efforts of the Foreign Office.

Mr Russell's wife, Carol, said that the Government had not done nearly enough, and should have resorted to the strategy of a special envoy, rather than waiting for the Church of England to do just that.

She said: "There were times when the Foreign Office could have helped and did not. The past months have been really awful, and very worrying for the whole family. It seemed we couldn't get anyone to help the men."

But when the Church came into it, at our request, and since Terry Waites started making his visits out there last November we began feeling not quite so bad, because of our great faith in his ability."

Mrs Russell first alerted Dr Runcie to the fact that the Government had ended in deadlock and that the only hope was a personal initiative.

Mr Russell was the volunteer organiser for the small Anglican community in Tripoli and on that slender link she said Dr Runcie might be able to get through to the Libyan authorities.

His letter to Colonel Gadhafi on August 1 set the ball rolling although it was many weeks before Mr Waites landed in Tripoli for his first visit which was kept secret by agreement between Lambeth Palace and Colonel Gadhafi.

The three subsequent visits, starting with one at Christmas, were conducted openly.

The Libyans said yesterday that the national assembly, the General People's Congress, had decided to release the Britons on the basis of a number of "conditions."

There seems to have been no attempt to get Mr Waites to make any commitment on conditions, which he tactfully ignored in his impromptu speech of thanks.

The main conditions are that the Anglican Church and the Government should work for the release of Libyans held in prisons or awaiting trial. Britain should hand over anti-Gadhafi "stray dogs" to the Libyan authorities; Britain should see that "anti-Libyan propaganda" was stopped; and the Church should set up a "help network" for Libyans.

Whitehall made no public comment but thinks that the first four proposals are unworkable or unacceptable.

The last condition has already been discussed by Dr Runcie and Mr Waites, and it was felt that Anglican communities could help on a local and voluntary basis.

The news of the release was telephoned to all four families by a senior official at Lambeth yesterday afternoon after the live television broadcast.

Dr Runcie, who has talked to the families repeatedly during recent weeks, said that he had been impressed by Mr Waites kept out of government matters in his brief speech of thanks at the national assembly. The 8,000 Libyans students in Britain would be treated in accordance with the law.

Civil Service protest threat

By Alan Travis

Civil servants protesting against the threatened closure of 29 Skillcentres have been warned by the Manpower Services Commission that it will take legal action against them if they take time off to attend the protest lobby of Parliament.

Senior Labour leaders last night protested to the Speaker of the House of Commons, Mr Bernard Weatherill, that the Government was intimidating the Skillcentres workers into not exercising their constitutional right to lobby MPs.

Mr John Prescott, the shadow employment secretary, yesterday produced a copy of a letter dated January 29 from Mr Eric Galvin, secretary of the management side of the MSC's Whitley Council, to the

trade unions which stated that any mass lobby would be seen as "very clearly part of industrial action in furtherance of a trade dispute."

"The implications of this, I am sure you realise—there can be no annual or flexi-leave granted for the purpose of attending a lobby and any officer taking part in the lobby would be viewed as being on unauthorised absence with the consequent loss of pay."

Mr Galvin asserted that the management's line was in no way a denial of access to their own MPs for individual officers. "We are clear, however, that it would be inappropriate for management to, in effect, subsidise a mass demonstration in opposition to the failing of the management side of the MSC's Whitley Council, to the

training agency."

Mr Prescott complained in the House of Commons to Mr Tom King, the Employment Secretary, that over 1,000 workers faced redundancy this year because of the MSC's threat to close 29 out of the country's 37 Skillcentres. "The letter from the MSC is threatening these employees that if they come to Parliament to protest they will use the Industrial Relations Act to intimidate them and deny them their constitutional rights."

Mr King did not directly address the question but said that he was now considering the closure proposal. It was the Government's responsibility to ensure the resources for training were used effectively. In February 1984 civil ser-

vants were refused permission to take annual leave to attend a demonstration against the decision to ban trade unions at GCHQ in Cheltenham.

Mr Neil Kinnock, the Labour leader, later complained to the Speaker about the MSC's decision, saying that the right of citizens to go to Parliament to see their MPs had been a jealously guarded privilege. "By virtue of their particular employment of a person, the Government is able to threaten people with action in consequence of their coming to see MPs."

The Speaker said he fully accepted the right of citizens to lobby their MPs but the matter of taking leave was not his responsibility. However, he said he would look closely into the matter.

PM holds hard line on pit closure procedure

By Ian Aitken

Political Editor

The Government is still insisting on a written undertaking from the miners' readiness to negotiate procedures for closing uneconomic pits. But it underlines the curious division of opinion between the hard line being taken by Downing Street and the much more relaxed approach of the Department of Energy. Mr Peter Walker, the Energy Secretary, told the Commons on Monday that all miners had to do to restart talks was to agree to discuss uneconomic pits as a priority issue.

Government sources were clearly angered by yesterday's reports of confusion about the Government's line on the resumption of talks. They insisted that the NUM only had to accept the terms of the deal agreed by Nacods and there would be no question of asking for a signed document of any kind.

The Prime Minister put the point forcefully in the Commons yesterday at Question Time, declaring that the strike would be over immediately if the NUM agreed to accept the Nacods deal.

Downing Street sources elaborated later on these remarks, pointing out that Nacods had never welcomed the idea of pit closures. But the crucial factor was that they had recognised the right of the board to manage the industry.

Initially, it was claimed that an agenda for talks which included pit closures at the top of the list would be accepted by the Government as amounting to a written acceptance of the principle by the NUM. But it was later made plain that Mr Scargrod and his colleagues would be expected to endorse such an agenda in specific terms, and in writing before the talks took place.

Hailsham backs down

By Malcolm Dean

Lord Denning and Lord Hailsham last night led a House of Lords move to force Lord Hailsham, the Lord Chancellor, to withdraw a proposal to challenge an administrative decision in the Court of Appeal.

The attack was against the Government's proposal to remove the right of appeal against a single High Court judge's refusal to allow an individual challenge against decisions by ministers, government departments and local authorities.

Lord Hailsham withdrew the clause from the Administration of Justice Bill and promised to introduce an alternative at the report stage of the bill.

Lord Denning said that the right of appeal to the Court of Appeal was "one of the greatest developments in our judicial system in the last 30 years." The misuse or abuse of power by public authorities against an individual must be controlled by the court.

Lord Hailsham said that the Government's proposal to create more judges if the Court of Appeal was overburdened. It should not stop the right of appeal to the court.

Lord Hailsham said that the Court of Appeal had indicated that it would not oppose his suggested compromise which was that the appeal should be heard in the High Court but with a Court of Appeal judge in the chair.



David Gower, England's cricket captain, holds aloft the trophy presented to the England side after the fifth test was drawn at Kampur yesterday

Head teachers may be drawn into dispute

By Andrew Mearns

Education Staff

Head teachers seemed likely to be drawn into dispute last night as more education authorities took a tough line over the campaign of disruption in schools by the National Union of Teachers, due to start today.

At least 16 authorities — including Labour-controlled councils — have now written to their teachers, giving warning that they could face pay cuts or disciplinary action if they refuse to perform certain duties.

Many head teachers have been instructed to record all occasions when staff fail to carry out duties which the employers regard as contractual. Their union accepts that as a legitimate task.

But the 20,500-strong National Association of Head Teachers is angered by an instruction issued to its members in St Helens, Merseyside.

Heads have been told that they must maintain a school meals service at all costs — although the NUT is calling on its members to refuse to supervise school meals and to leave the premises at lunchtime.

Mr David Hart, general secretary of the NART, said last night that he would declare a dispute unless the instruction is withdrawn.

"We don't accept the right of local authorities to go around issuing blanket instructions which will make heads' jobs that much more difficult,"

he said. "Heads may have to take decisions to reduce the school meals service or to close down schools altogether."

Mr David Watts, chairman of the St Helens education committee, confirmed that he intends to enforce the order. It had been issued to prevent a repeat of incidents last year.

Then, up to 800 children, many of whom travelled by bus long distances from home, remained unsupervised at lunchtime because of similar disruptive action by teachers.

The campaign will be launched today by the NUT to protest about the employers' 4 per cent pay offer, rejected last week when the teachers refused to accept arbitration.

The teachers are demanding at least £1,500 extra for all from April, with the long-term aim of regaining pay levels set over 10 years ago by the Houghton Committee.

The NUT is asking its 285,000 members not to cover for absent colleagues, a move which could quickly lead to children being sent home.

John Ardill adds: "The General, Municipal and Boilermakers' Union said yesterday it would begin a campaign of industrial action in four weeks' time unless the local government employers improve their offer."

The union's executive also endorsed plans for a meeting on Thursday next week between the manual unions and the teachers' unions to co-ordinate action.

Australian fugitive in court wrangle

From Joe Joyce

In Dublin

The High Court in Dublin yesterday ordered the release of Mr Robert Trimbole, said to be one of Australia's most wanted underworld figures, in a ruling which strongly criticised the handling of the case by the Irish police.

Mr Trimbole, aged 53, is wanted in Australia on 18 charges, including conspiracy to murder two people and importing heroin.

The Irish authorities immediately appealed against the decision to the Supreme Court, which ordered that Mr Trimbole remain in custody until it considers the matter today.

The High Court decision to free him was based on the fact that detectives wrongly used anti-terrorism legislation to detain him while arrangements were made for his extradition.

Ireland and Australia did not have the extradition agreement until after Mr Trimbole's arrest, when both governments invoked special procedures to allow the mutual return of wanted people. The governments used an arrangement to extend the extradition laws to other states which offer reciprocal arrangements without the need for a formal treaty.

The High Court rejected the legal and constitutional arguments put forward by Mr Trimbole's lawyers, but Mr Justice Seamus Egan decided that Mr Trimbole had been illegally arrested.

He was detained by drug squad detectives under the main anti-terrorism law, the Offences Against the State Act, as he left Dublin with his wife and daughter for the west of Ireland on October 25.

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David Bassett opts to take early retirement

Continued from page one

and no other leader has yet emerged with the clout required to carry the majority of the TUC general council on important issues of the day.

Mr Bassett was born in Liverpool and served with distinction in the military during the war. He became a trade union official in 1949 and a member of the TUC general council in 1966. He has served on several committees of inquiry, including the royal commission on penal reform.

In the regions, Mr Tom Bur-

Three possible candidates were emerging last night as his successor. Mr John Edwards, public services national officer, who has been handling the local government pay negotiations, is the most likely to obtain support. But another strong candidate from the national stable is Mr David Warburton, the union's official responsible for the rubber and chemical industry.

In the regions, Mr Tom Bur-

THE WEATHER

Sunny intervals

WEAKENING troughs of low pressure will move northwards across most parts.

London: 5-10. Bright, or sunny intervals, mainly dry. Wind S. moderate. Max temp 10°C (45 to 48°F).

West of Isles: 5-10. Bright, or sunny intervals, mainly dry. Wind S. moderate. Max temp 10°C (45 to 48°F).

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AROUND THE WORLD

London time reports

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